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[Stone, Laurence]

THE
L I F E
AND
O P I N I O N S
OF
TRISTRAM SHANDY,
GENTLEMAN.

*Dixero si quid fortè jocosius, hoc mihi juris
Cum venia dabis.——* HOR.

*—Si quis calumnietur levius esse quam decet theo-
logum, aut mordacius quam deceat Christianus
—non Ego, sed Democritus dixit——*
ERASMUS.

*Si quis Clericus, aut Monachus, verba jocularia;
pifum moventia sciebat anathema esto.*

Second Council of CARTHAGE.

A NEW EDITION.

V O L. IV.

L O N D O N:

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To the Right Honourable

J O H N

Lord Viscount SPENCER.

My LORD,

I Humbly beg leave to offer you these two Volumes; they are the best my talents, with such bad health as I have, could produce:—had providence granted me a larger stock of either, they had been a much more proper present to your Lordship.

I beg your Lordship will forgive me, if, at the same time I dedicate
this

DEDICATION.

this work to you, I join Lady SPENCER, in the liberty I take of inscribing the story of *Le Fever* to her name ; for which I have no other motive, which my heart has informed me of, but that the story is a humane one.

I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most devoted, and

Most humble Servant,

LAUR. STERNE.

THE
LIFE and OPINIONS
OF
TRISTRAM SHANDY, Gent.

CHAP. I.

IF it had not been for those two mettlesome tits, and that madcap of a postilion, who drove them from Stilton to Stamford, the thought had never entered my head. He flew like lightning——there was a slope of three miles and a half——we scarce touched the ground——the motion was most rapid——most impetuous——’twas communicated to my brain——my heart partook of it——“By the great God of day,” said I, looking towards

the sun, and thrusting my arm out of the forewindow of the chaise, as I made my vow, “ I will lock up my study-door the moment I get home, and throw the key of it ninety feet below the surface of the earth, into the draw-well at the back of my house.”

The London waggon confirmed me in my resolution ; it hung tottering upon the hill, scarce progressive, drag’d—drag’d up by eight *heavy beasts*—“ by main strength !—quoth I, nodding—but your betters draw the same way—and something of every bodies !—O rare !”

Tell me, ye learned, shall we for ever be adding so much to the *bulk*—so little to the *stock* ?

Shall we for ever make new books, as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another ?

Are we for ever to be twisting, and untwisting the same rope? for ever in the same track—for ever at the same pace?

Shall we be destined to the days of eternity, on holy-days, as well as working-days, to be shewing the *relicks of learning*, as monks do the relicks of their saints——without working one—one single miracle with them?

Who made MAN, with powers which dart him from earth to heaven in a moment—that great, that most excellent, and most noble creature of the world—the *miracle* of nature, as Zoroaster in his book *περὶ φύσεως* called him—the SHEKINAH of the divine presence, as Chrysostom—the *image* of God, as Moses—the *ray* of divinity, as Plato—the *marvel* of *marvels*, as Aristotle——to go sneaking on at this pitiful—pimping—pettifogging rate?

B 2.

I scorn

I scorn to be as abusive as Horace upon the occasion——but if there is no catachresis in the wish, and no sin in it, I wish from my soul, that every imitator in *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, had the farcy for his pains; and that there was a good farcical house, large enough to hold—aye—and sublimate them, *shag-rag and bob-tail*, male and female, all together: and this leads me to the affair of *Whiskers*——but, by what chain of ideas——I leave as a legacy in *mort main* to Prudes and Tartufs, to enjoy and make the most of.

Upon Whiskers.

I'm sorry I made it——'twas as inconsiderate a promise as ever entered a man's head——A chapter upon whiskers! alas! the world will not bear it——'tis a delicate world—but I knew not of what mettle it was made—nor had I ever seen the under-
written

written fragment; otherwise, as surely as noses are noses, and whiskers are whiskers still; (let the world say what it will to the contrary) so surely would I have steered clear of this dangerous chapter.

The Fragment.

* * * * *

———You are half asleep, my good lady, said the old gentleman, taking hold of the old lady's hand, and giving it a gentle squeeze, as he pronounced the word *Whiskers*——shall we change the subject? By no means, replied the old lady—I like your account of these matters: so throwing a thin gauze handkerchief over her head, and leaning it back upon the chair with her face turned towards him, and advancing her two feet as she reclined herself——I desire, continued she, you will go on.

The old gentleman went on as follows.
 —Whiskers ! cried the queen of *Navarre*, dropping her knotting ball, as *La Fosseuse* uttered the word—Whiskers ; madam, said *La Fosseuse*, pinning the ball to the queen's apron, and making a courtesy as she repeated it.

La Fosseuse's voice was naturally soft and low, yet 'twas an articulate voice : and every letter of the word *whiskers* fell distinctly upon the queen of *Navarre's* ear—Whiskers ! cried the queen, laying a greater stress upon the word, and as if she had still distrusted her ears—Whiskers ; replied *La Fosseuse*, repeating the word a third time—There is not a cavalier, madam, of his age in *Navarre*, continued the maid of honour, pressing the page's interest upon the queen, that has so gallant a pair—Of what ? cried *Margaret*, smiling—Of whiskers, said *La Fosseuse*, with infinite modesty.

The

The word whiskers still stood its ground, and continued to be made use of in most of the best companies throughout the little kingdom of *Navarre*, notwithstanding the indiscreet use which *La Fosseuse* had made of it: the truth was, *La Fosseuse* had pronounced the word, not only before the queen, but upon sundry other occasions at court, with an accent which always implied something of a mystery——And as the court of *Margaret*, as all the world knows, was at that time a mixture of gallantry and devotion——and whiskers being as applicable to the one, as the other, the word naturally stood its ground—it gain'd full as much as it lost; that is, the clergy were for it—the laity were against it—and for the women,——*they* were divided.——

The excellency of the figure and mien of the young *Sieur de Croix*, was at that time

beginning to draw the attention of the maids of honour towards the terrace before the palace gate, where the guard was mounted. The Lady *de Bauffiere* fell deeply in love with him,—*La Battarelle* did the same—it was the finest weather for it, that ever was remembered in *Navarre*—*La Guyol*, *La Maronette*, *La Sabatiere*, fell in love with the *Sieur de Croix* also,—*La Rebours* and *La Fosseuse* knew better—*De Croix* had failed in an attempt to recommend himself to *La Rebours*; and *La Rebours* and *La Fosseuse* were inseparable.

The queen of *Navarre* was sitting with her ladies in the painted bow-window, facing the gate of the second court, as *De Croix* passed through it—He is handsome, said the Lady *Bauffiere*.—He has a good mien, said *La Battarelle*.—He is finely shaped, said *La Guyol*.—I never saw an officer of the horse-guards in my life, said *La Maronette*,

Marquette, with two such legs—Or who stood so well upon them, said *La Sabatiere*——But he has no whiskers, cried *La Fosseuse*—Not a pile, said *La Rebours*.

The queen went directly to her oratory, musing all the way, as she walked through the gallery, upon the subject; turning it this way and that way in her fancy——*Ave Maria* †—what can *La Fosseuse* mean? said she, kneeling down upon the cushion.

La Guyol, *La Battarelle*, *La Marquette*, *La Sabatiere*, retired instantly to their chambers—Whiskers! said all four of them to themselves, as they bolted their doors on the inside.

The Lady *Carnavallette* was counting her beads with both hands, unsuspected under her farthingal—from *St. Antony* down to *St. Ursula* inclusive, not a saint passed through

through her fingers without whiskers ; St. Francis, St. Dominick, St. Bennet, St. Basil, St. Bridget, had all whiskers.

The Lady *Bauffiere* had got into a wilderness of conceits, with moralizing too intricately upon *La Fesseuse's* text—She mounted her palfry, her page followed her—the host passed by—the lady *Bauffiere* rode on.

One denier, cried the order of mercy—one single denier, in behalf of a thousand patient captives, whose eyes look towards heaven and you for their redemption.

—The Lady *Bauffiere* rode on.

Pity the unhappy, said a devout, venerable, hoary-headed man, meekly holding up a box, begirt with iron, in his withered hands—I beg for the unfortunate—good,
my

my lady, 'tis for a prison—for an hospital—
 'tis for an old man—a poor man undone
 by shipwreck, by suretyship, by fire——
 I call God and all his angels to witness—
 'tis to clothe the naked—to feed the hun-
 gry——'tis to comfort the sick and the
 broken-hearted. . . .

The Lady *Bauffiere* rode on.

A decayed kinsman bowed himself to the
 ground.

—The Lady *Bauffiere* rode on.

He ran begging bare-headed on one side
 of her palfry, conjuring her by the former
 bonds of friendship, alliance, consanguini-
 nity, &c.—Cousin, aunt, sister, mother,
 —for virtue's sake, for your own, for
 mine, for Christ's sake remember me—
 pity me.

—The

—The Lady *Bauffiere* rode on.

Take hold of my whiskers, said the Lady *Bauffiere*—The page took hold of her palfry. She dismounted at the end of the terrace.

There are some trains of certain ideas which leave prints of themselves about our eyes and eyebrows; and there is a consciousness of it, somewhere about the heart, which serves but to make these etchings the stronger—we see, spell, and put them together without a dictionary.

Ha, ha! hee, hee! cried *La Guyol* and *La Sabatiere*, looking close at each other's prints—Ho, ho! cried *La Battarelle* and *Marcnette*, doing the same:—Whist! cried one—st, st,—said a second,—hush, quoth a third—poo, poo, replied a fourth—gramercy! cried the Lady *Carnavallette*;—'twas she who bewhisker'd St. Bridget.

La

La Fosseuse drew her bodkin from the knot of her hair, and having traced the outline of a small whisker, with the blunt end of it, upon one side of her upper lip, put it into *La Rebours's* hand—*La Rebours* shook her head.

The Lady *Bauffiere* cough'd thrice into the inside of her muff—*La Guyot* smiled—*Fy*, said the Lady *Bauffiere*. The queen of *Navarre* touched her eye with the tip of her fore-finger—as much as to say, I understand you all.

'Twas plain to the whole court the word was ruined: *La Fosseuse* had given it a wound, and it was not the better for passing through all these defiles——It made a faint stand, however, for a few months, by the expiration of which, the *Sieur de Croix*, finding it high time to leave *Navarre* for want of whiskers—the word in
course-

course became indecent, and (after a few efforts) absolutely unfit for use.

The best word, in the best language of the best world, must have suffered under such combinations.—The curate of *d'Estella* wrote a book against them, setting forth the dangers of accessory ideas, and warning the *Navarois* against them.

Does not all the world know, said the curate *d'Estella* at the conclusion of his work, that Noses ran the same fate some centuries ago in most parts of *Europe*, which whiskers have now done in the kingdom of *Navarre*—The evil indeed spread no further then—, but have not beds and bolsters, and night-caps and chamber-pots stood upon the brink of destruction ever since? Are not trouse, and placket-holes, and pump-handles—and spigots and faucets, in danger still, from the same association?

ation?—Chastity, by nature, the gentlest of all affections—give it but its head—'tis like a ramping and a roaring lion.

The drift of the curate *d'Estella's* argument was not understood.—They ran the scent the wrong way.—The world bridled his ass at the tail.—And when the *extremes* of DELICACY, and the *beginnings* of CONSPISCENCE, hold their next provincial chapter together, they may decree that bawdy also.

CHAP. II.

WHEN my father received the letter which brought him the melancholy account of my brother *Bobby's* death, he was busy calculating the expence of his riding post from *Calais* to *Paris*, and so on to *Lyons*.

'Twas

'Twas a most inauspicious journey ; my father having had every foot of it to travel over again, and his calculation to begin afresh, when he had almost got to the end of it, by *Obadiab's* opening the door to acquaint him the family was out of yeast—and to ask whether he might not take the great coach-horse early in the morning, and ride in search of some.—With all my heart, *Obadiab*, said my father, (pursuing his journey)—take the coach-horse, and welcome.—But he wants a shoe, poor creature ! said *Obadiab*.—Poor creature ! said my uncle *Tely*, vibrating the note back again, like a string in unison. Then ride the *Scotch* horse, quoth my father hastily. He cannot bear a saddle upon his back, quoth *Obadiab*, for the whole world.—The devil's in that horse ; then take PATRIOT, cried my father, and shut the door.—PATRIOT is sold, said *Obadiab*. Here's for you ! cried my father, making a
7 pause,

pause, and looking in my uncle *Toby's* face, as if the thing had not been a matter of fact.—Your worship ordered me to sell him last *April*, said *Obadiab*.—Then go on foot for your pains, cried my father.—I had much rather walk than ride, said *Obadiab*, shutting the door.

What plagues ! cried my father, going on with his calculation.—But the waters are out, said *Obadiab*,—opening the door again.

Till that moment, my father, who had a map of *Sanfon's*, and a book of the post-roads before him, had kept his hand upon the head of his compasses, with one foot of them fixed upon *Nevers*, the last stage he had paid for—purposing to go on from that point with his journey and calculation, as soon as *Obadiab* quitted the room ; but this second attack of *Obadiab's*, in

opening the door and laying the whole country under water, was too much.—He let go his compasses—or rather with a mixed motion betwixt accident and anger, he threw them upon the table; and then there was nothing for him to do, but to return back to *Calais* (like many others) as wise as he had set out.

When the letter was brought into the parlour, which contained the news of my brother's death, my father had got forwards again upon his journey to within a stride of the compasses of the very same stage of *Nevers*.—By your leave, Monsr. *Sanson*, cried my father, striking the point of his compasses through *Nevers* into the table,—and nodding to my uncle *Toby*, to see what was in the letter,—twice of one night is too much for an *English* gentleman and his son, Monsr. *Sanson*, to be turned back from so lousy a town as *Nevers*,—what think'st thou,

thou, *Toby*, added my father in a sprightly tone.—Unless it be a garrison town, said my uncle *Toby*,—for then—I shall be a fool, said my father, smiling to himself, as long as I live.—So giving a second nod—and keeping his compasses still upon *Nevers* with one hand, and holding his book of the post-roads in the other—half calculating and half listening, he leaned forwards upon the table with both elbows, as my uncle *Toby* hummed over the letter.

— — — — —
 — — — — —
 — — — — —
 — — — — — he's gone!

said my uncle *Toby*.——Where—Who?
 cried my father.——My nephew, said my
 uncle *Toby*.——What ——without leave—
 without money—without governor? cried
 my father in amazement. No:—he is
 dead, my dear brother, quoth my uncle

Toby.——Without being ill? cried my father again.——I dare say not, said my uncle *Toby*, in a low voice, and fetching a deep sigh from the bottom of his heart, he has been ill enough, poor lad! I'll answer for him——for he is dead.

When *Agrippina* was told of her son's death, *Tacitus* informs us, that not being able to moderate the violence of her passions, she abruptly broke off her work——My father struck his compasses into *Nevers*, but so much the faster.——What contrarieties! his, indeed, was matter of calculation—*Agrippina's* must have been quite a different affair; who else could pretend to reason from history?

How my father went on, in my opinion, deserves a chapter to itself.——

C H A P. III.

————— And a chapter it shall have, and a devil of a one too——so look to yourselves.

'Tis either *Plato*, or *Plutarch*, or *Seneca*, or *Xenophon*, or *Epicletus*, or *Theophrastus*, or *Lucian*——or some one perhaps of later date——either *Cardan*, or *Budæus*, or *Petrarch*, or *Stella*——or possibly it may be some divine or father of the church, *St. Austin*, or *St. Cyprian*, or *Barnard*, who affirms that it is an irresistible and natural passion to weep for the loss of our friends or children——and *Seneca* (I'm positive) tells us somewhere, that such griefs evacuate themselves best by that particular channel——And accordingly we find, that *David* wept for his son *Absalom*——*Adrian* for his *Antoninus*——*Niebe* for her children, and that *Apolodorus* and *Crito* both shed tears for *Socrates* before his death.

My father managed his affliction otherwise; and indeed differently from most men either ancient or modern; for he neither wept it away, as the *Hebrews* and the *Romans*——or slept it off, as the *Laplanders*——or hang'd it, as the *English*, or drown'd it, as the *Germans*——nor did he chuse it, or damn it, or excommunicate it, or rhyme it, or lillabullero it——

—— He got rid of it, however.

Will your worships give me leave to squeeze in a story between these two pages?

When *Tully* was bereft of his dear daughter *Tullia*, at first he laid it to his heart,—he listened to the voice of nature, and modulated his own unto it.——O my *Tullia*! my daughter! my child;—still, still, still,—'twas O my *Tullia*!——my *Tullia*! Methinks I see my *Tullia*, I hear my *Tullia*,
I talk

I talk with my *Tullia*.—But as soon as he began to look into the stores of philosophy, and consider how many excellent things might be said upon the occasion—no body upon earth can conceive, says the great orator, how happy, how joyful it made me.

My father was as proud of his eloquence as MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO could be for his life, and for aught I am convinced of to the contrary at present, with as much reason: it was indeed his strength—and his weakness too.—His strength—for he was by nature eloquent,—and his weakness—for he was hourly a dupe to it; and provided an occasion in life would but permit him to shew his talents, or say either a wise thing, a witty, or a shrewd one——(bating the case of a systematic misfortune)—he had all he wanted.—A blessing which tied up my father's tongue, and a misfortune which set it loose with a good
C 4
grace,

grace, were pretty equal : sometimes, indeed, the misfortune was the better of the two ; for instance, where the pleasure of the harangue was as *ten*, and the pain of the misfortune but as *five*——my father gained half in half, and consequently was as well again off, as if it never had befallen him.

This clue will unravel what otherwise would seem very inconsistent in my father's domestic character ; and it is this, that in the provocations arising from the neglects and blunders of servants, or other mishaps unavoidable in a family, his anger, or rather the duration of it, eternally ran counter to all conjecture.

My father had a favourite little mare, which he had consigned over to a most beautiful Arabian horse, in order to have a pad out of her for his own riding : he was
sanguine

sanguine in all his projects ; so talked about his pad every day with as absolute a security, as if it had been reared, broke,—— and bridled and saddled at his door ready for mounting. By some neglect or other in *Obadiab*, it so fell out, that my father's expectations were answered with nothing better than a mule, and as ugly a beast of the kind as ever was produced.

My mother and my uncle *Toby* expected my father would be the death of *Obadiab*—— and that there never would be an end of the disaster.——See here ! you rascal, cried my father, pointing to the mule, what you have done !——It was not me, said *Obadiab*.——How do I know that ? replied my father.

Triumph swam in my father's eyes, at the repartee—the *Attic* salt brought water
into

into them—and so *Obadiah* heard no more about it.

Now let us go back to my brother's death.

Philosophy has a fine saying for every thing.—For *Death* it has an entire set; the misery was, they all at once rushed into my father's head, that 'twas difficult to string them together, so as to make any thing of a consistent show out of them.—He took them as they came.

“ 'Tis an inevitable chance—the first
“ statute in *Magna Charta*—it is an ever-
“ lasting act of parliament, my dear bro-
“ ther,——*All must die.*

“ If my son could not have died, it had
“ been matter of wonder,—not that he is
“ dead.

“ Monarchs

“ Monarchs and princes dance in the
 “ same ring with us.

“ —*To die*, is the great debt and tribute
 “ due unto nature : tombs and monu-
 “ ments, which should perpetuate our me-
 “ mories, pay it themselves ; and the proud-
 “ est pyramid of them all, which wealth
 “ and science have erected, has lost its
 “ apex, and stands obtruncated in the tra-
 “ veller’s horizon.’ (My father found he
 got great ease, and went on)—“ Kingdoms
 “ and provinces, and towns and cities,
 “ have they not their periods ? and when
 “ those principles and powers, which at
 “ first cemented and put them together,
 “ have performed their several evolutions,
 “ they fall back.”—Brother *Shandy*, said
 my uncle *Toby*, laying down his pipe at the
 word *evolutions*——Revolutions, I meant,
 quoth my father, —by heaven ! I meant
 revolutions, brother *Toby*——evolutions is
 nonsense.

nonsense.—'Tis not nonsense—said my uncle *Toby*.——But is it not nonsense to break the thread of such a discourse, upon such an occasion? cried my father—do not—dear *Toby*, continued he, taking him by the hand, do not—do not, I beseech thee, interrupt me at this crisis.—My uncle *Toby* put his pipe into his mouth.

“ Where is *Troy* and *Mycenæ*, and
 “ *Thebes* and *Delos*, and *Persepolis*, and
 “ *Agrigentum*”—continued my father, taking up his book of post-roads, which he had laid down.—“ What is become, brother *Toby*, of *Nineveh* and *Babylon*, of
 “ *Cizicum* and *Mitylenæ*? The fairest
 “ towns that ever the sun rose upon, are
 “ now no more; the names only are left,
 “ and those (for many of them are wrong
 “ spelt) are falling themselves by piece-meals to decay, and in length of time
 “ will be forgotten, and involved with
 “ every

“ every thing in a perpetual night : the
 “ world itself, brother *Toby*, must—must
 “ come to an end.

“ Returning out of *Asia*, when I sailed
 “ from *Ægina* towards *Megara*,” (*when
 can this have been? thought my uncle Toby*)
 “ I began to view the country round
 “ about. *Ægina* was behind me, *Megara*
 “ was before, *Pyræus* on the right hand,
 “ *Corinth* on the left.—What flourishing
 “ towns now prostrate upon the earth !
 “ Alas ! alas ! said I to myself, that man
 “ should disturb his soul for the loss of a
 “ child, when so much as this lies awfully
 “ buried in his presence——Remember,
 “ said I to myself again—remember thou
 “ art a man.”——

Now my uncle *Toby* knew not that this
 last paragraph was an extract of *Servius Sul-*
picius's consolatory letter to *Tully*.——He
 had

had as little skill, honest man, in the fragments, as he had in the whole pieces of antiquity.—And as my father, whilst he was concerned in the *Turky* trade, had been three or four different times in the *Levant*, in one of which he had staid a whole year and a half at *Zant*, my uncle *Toby* naturally concluded, that in some one of these periods, he had taken a trip across the *Archipelago* into *Asia* ; and that all this sailing affair with *Ægina* behind, and *Megara* before, and *Pyræus* on the right hand, &c. &c. was nothing more than the true course of my father's voyage and reflections.—'Twas certainly in his *manner*, and many an undertaking critic would have built two stories higher upon worse foundations.—And pray, brother, quoth my uncle *Toby*, laying the end of his pipe upon my father's hand in a kindly way of interruption—but waiting till he finished the account—what year of our Lord was this?

—'Twas

uncle *Toby's* suspicions.—“ Labour, for-
 “ row, grief, sickness, want, and woe,
 “ are the sauces of life.”——Much good
 may do them——said my uncle *Toby* to
 himself.——

“ My son is dead !—so much the better ;
 “ —’tis a shame in such a tempest to have
 “ but one anchor.”

“ But he is gone for ever from us !—be
 “ it so. He is got from under the hands
 “ of his barber before he was bald—he is
 “ but risen from a feast before he was sur-
 “ feited—from a banquet before he had
 “ got drunken.”

“ The *Thracians* wept when a child was
 “ born”——(and we were very near it,
 quoth my uncle *Toby*)——“ and feasted and
 “ made merry when a man went out of
 “ the world ; and with reason.——Death
 opens

“ opens the gate of fame, and shuts the
 “ gate of envy after it,——it unlooses the
 “ chain of the captive, and puts the bondf-
 “ man’s task into another man’s hands.”

“ Shew me the man, who knows what
 “ life is, who dreads it, and I’ll shew thee
 “ a prisoner who dreads his liberty.”

Is it not better, my dear brother *Toby*,
 (for mark—our appetites are but diseases)
 —is it not better not to hunger at all, than
 to eat?——not to thirst, than to take phy-
 sick to cure it?

Is it not better to be freed from cares and
 agues, from love and melancholy, and the
 other hot and cold fits of life, than like a
 galled traveller, who comes weary to his
 inn, to be bound to begin his journey
 afresh?

There is no terror, brother *Toby*, in its
 looks, but what it borrows from groans

and convulsions—and the blowing of noses, and the wiping away of tears with the bottoms of curtains in a dying man's room.——Strip it of these, what is it——'Tis better in battle than in bed, said my uncle *Toby*.——Take away its herfes, its mutes, and its mourning,——its plumes, scutcheons, and other mechanic aids——What is it?—*Better in battle!* continued my father, smiling, for he had absolutely forgot my brother *Bobby*——'tis terrible no way—for consider, brother *Toby*,—when we *are*—death is *not*;—and when death *is*——we are *not*. My uncle *Toby* laid down his pipe to consider the proposition; my father's eloquence was too rapid to stay for any man——away it went,——and hurried my uncle *Toby's* ideas along with it.——

For this reason, continued my father, 'tis worthy to recollect, how little alteration in great men, the approaches of death
have

have made.—*Vespasian* died in a jest upon his close-stool——*Galba* with a sentence——*Septimius Severus* in a dispatch——*Tiberius* in dissimulation, and *Cæsar Augustus* in a compliment.—I hope 'twas a sincere one——quoth my uncle *Toby*.

—'Twas to his wife,—said my father.

C H A P. IV.

——And lastly—for all the choice anecdotes which history can produce of this matter, continued my father,—this, like the gilded dome which covers in the fabrick——crowns all.——

'Tis of *Cornelius Gallus*, the prætor—which I dare say, brother *Toby*, you have read.——I dare say I have not, replied my uncle.—He died, said my father, as * *
* * * * *——And

if it was with his wife, said my uncle *Toby*—there could be no hurt in it.—That's more than I know—replied my father.

C H A P. V.

MY mother was going very gingerly in the dark along the passage which led to the parlour, as my uncle *Toby* pronounced the word *wife*.—'Tis a shrill, penetrating sound of itself, and *Obadiab* had helped it by leaving the door a little a-jar, so that my mother heard enough of it, to imagine herself the subject of the conversation : so laying the edge of her finger across her two lips—holding in her breath, and bending her head a little downwards, with a twist of her neck—(not towards the door, but from it, by which means her ear was brought to the chink)—she listened with all her powers :—the listening slave, with the Goddess of Silence at his back,

back, could not have given a finer thought for an intaglio:

In this attitude I am determined to let her stand for five minutes: till I bring up the affairs of the kitchen (as *Rapin* does those of the church) to the same period.

CHAP. VI.

THOUGH in one sense, our family was certainly a simple machine, as it consisted of a few wheels; yet there was thus much to be said for it, that these wheels were set in motion by so many different springs, and acted one upon the other from such a variety of strange principles and impulses,—that though it was a simple machine, it had all the honour and advantages of a complex one,——and a number of as odd movements within it, as ever were beheld in the inside of a *Dutch* silk-mill.

Amongst these there was one, I am going to speak of, in which, perhaps, it was not altogether so singular, as in many others; and it was this, that whatever motion, debate, harangue, dialogue, project, or dissertation, was going forwards in the parlour, there was generally another at the same time, and upon the same subject, running parallel along with it in the kitchen.

Now to bring this about, whenever an extraordinary message, or letter, was delivered in the parlour,——or a discourse suspended till a servant went out——or the lines of discontent were observed to hang upon the brows of my father or mother——or, in short, when any thing was supposed to be upon the tapis worth knowing or listening to, 'twas the rule to leave the door, not absolutely shut, but somewhat a-jar—as it stands just now,——which, under covert of the bad hinge, (and that possibly might be
one

one of the many reasons why it was never mended) it was not difficult to manage; by which means, in all these cases, a passage was generally left, not indeed as wide as the *Dardanells*, but wide enough, for all that, to carry on as much of this windward trade, as was sufficient to save my father the trouble of governing his house;—my mother at this moment stands profiting by it.—*Obadiah* did the same thing, as soon as he had left the letter upon the table which brought the news of my brother's death; so that before my father had well got over his surprise, and entered upon his harangue,—had *Trim* got upon his legs, to speak his sentiments upon the subject.

A curious observer of nature, had he been worth the inventory of all *Job's* stock—though, by the bye, *your curious observers are seldom worth a groat*—would have given the half of it, to have heard Corporal *Trim*

and my father, two orators so contrasted by nature and education, haranguing over the same bier.

My father a man of deep reading——prompt memory—with *Cato*, and *Seneca*, and *Epietetus*, at his fingers ends.——

The corporal——with nothing—to remember——of no deeper reading than his muster-roll——or greater names at his finger's end, than the contents of it.

The one proceeding from period to period, by metaphor and allusion, and striking the fancy as he went along, (as men of wit and fancy do) with the entertainment and pleasantry of his pictures and images.

The other, without wit or antithesis, or point, or turn, this way or that ; but leaving the images on one side, and the pictures on the other, going straight forwards as
nature

nature could lead him, to the heart. O *Trim!* would to heaven thou had'st a better historian!—would!—thy historian had a better pair of breeches!—O ye critics! will nothing melt you?

C H A P. VII.

——My young master in *London* is dead! said *Obadiah*——

—A green fatten night-gown of my mother's, which had been twice scoured, was the first idea which *Obadiah's* exclamation brought into *Susannah's* head.—Well might *Locke* write a chapter upon the imperfections of words.—Then, quoth *Susannah*, we must all go into mourning.—But note a second time; the word *mourning*, notwithstanding *Susannah* made use of it herself—failed also of doing its office; it excited not one single idea, tinged either with grey or black,—all was green——

The

The green sattin night-gown hung there still.

—O ! 'twill be the death of my poor mistress, cried *Susannah*.—My mother's whole wardrobe followed.—What a procession ! her red damask,—her orange-tawny,—her white and yellow lutestrings,—her brown taffata,—her bone-laced caps, her bed-gowns, and comfortable under-petticoats,—not a rag was left behind.—“ No,—*she will never look up again,*” said *Susannah*.

We had a fat foolish scullion—my father, I think, kept her for her simplicity ; —she had been all autumn struggling with a dropfy.—He is dead, said *Obadiah*,—he is certainly dead !—So am not I, said the foolish scullion.

—Here is sad news, *Trim*, cried *Susannah*, wiping her eyes as *Trim* step'd into
the

the kitchen,—master *Bobby* is dead and *buried*—the funeral was an interpolation of *Susannah's*,—we shall have all to go into mourning, said *Susannah*.

I hope not, said *Trim*!—You hope not! cried *Susannah* earnestly.—The mourning ran not in *Trim's* head, whatever it did in *Susannah's*.—I hope, said *Trim*, explaining himself, I hope in God the news is not true.—I heard the letter read with my own ears, answered *Obadiab*; and we shall have a terrible piece of work of it in stubbing the ox-moor.—Oh! he's dead, said *Susannah*.—As sure, said the scullion, as I am alive.

I lament for him from my heart and my soul, said *Trim*, fetching a sigh—Poor creature!—poor boy! poor gentleman!

—He was alive last *Whitsontide*, said the coachman.—*Whitsontide*! alas! cried *Trim*,
extending

extending his right arm, and falling instantly into the same attitude in which he read the sermon,——what is *Whitsontide*, *Jonathan*, (for that was the coachman's name) or *Shrevetide*, or any tide or time past, to this? Are we not here now, continued the corporal, (striking the end of his stick perpendicularly upon the floor, so as to give an idea of health and stability)——and are we not——(dropping his hat upon the ground) gone! in a moment!——'Twas infinitely striking! *Susannah* burst into a flood of tears.—We are not stocks and stones.—*Jonathan*, *Obadiah*, the cook-maid, all melted.—The foolish fat scullion herself, who was scouring a fish-kettle upon her knees, was rous'd with it.—The whole kitchen crouded about the corporal.

Now as I perceive plainly, that the preservation of our constitution in church and state,——and possibly the preservation of the
whole

whole world—or what is the same thing, the distribution and balance of its property and power, may in time to come depend greatly upon the right understanding of this stroke of the corporal's eloquence—I do demand your attention—your worships and reverences, for any ten pages together, take them where you will in any other part of the work, shall sleep for it at your ease.

I said, “we were not stocks and stones”—’tis very well. I should have added, nor are we angels, I wish we were,—but men clothed with bodies, and governed by our imaginations;—and what a junketting piece of work of it there is, betwixt these and our seven senses, especially some of them, for my own part, I own it, I am ashamed to confess. Let it suffice to affirm, that of all the senses, the eye (for I absolutely deny the touch, though most of your
Barbati,

Barbati, I know, are for it) has the quickest commerce with the soul,—gives a smarter stroke, and leaves something more inexpressible upon the fancy, than the words can either convey—or sometimes get rid of.

——I've gone a little about—no matter, 'tis for health—let us only carry it back in our mind to the mortality of *Trim's* hat. —“Are we not here now,—and gone in a moment?”—There was nothing in the sentence—'twas one of your self-evident truths we have the advantage of hearing every day; and if *Trim* had not trusted more to his hat than his head—he had made nothing at all of it.

——“Are we not here now;”——continued the corporal, “and are we not”—(dropping his hat plumb upon the ground—and pausing, before he pronounced the word)—“gone! in a moment?” The
descend

descent of the hat was as if a heavy lump of clay had been kneaded into the crown of it——Nothing could have expressed the sentiment of mortality, of which it was the type and forerunner, like it,—his hand seemed to vanish from under it,—it fell dead,—the corporal's eye fix'd upon it, as upon a corps,—and *Susannah* burst into a flood of tears.

Now—Ten thousand, and ten thousand times ten thousand (for matter and motion are infinite) are the ways by which a hat may be dropped upon the ground, without any effect.——Had he flung it, or thrown it, or cast it, or skimmed it, or squirted it, or let it slip or fall in any possible direction under heaven,——or in the best direction that could be given to it,—had he dropped it like a goose—like a puppy—like an ass—or in doing it, or even after he had done, had he looked like a fool—like a ninny—
like

like a nincompoop—it had fail'd, and the effect upon the heart had been lost.

Ye who govern this mighty world and its mighty concerns with the *engines* of eloquence,—who heat it, and cool it, and melt it, and mollify it,——and then harden it again to *your purpose*——

Ye who wind and turn the passions with this great windlafs,—and, having done it, lead the owners of them, whither ye think meet——

Ye, lastly, who drive——and why not, Ye also who are driven, like turkeys to market, with a stick and a red clout—meditate——meditate, I beseech you, upon *Trim's hat*.

C H A P. VIII.

STAY—I have a 'small account to settle with the reader, before *Trim* can go on with his harangue.—It shall be done in two minutes.

Amongst many other book-debts, all of which I shall discharge in due time,—I own myself a debtor to the world for two items, — a chapter upon *chamber-maids and button-holes*, which, in the former part of my work, I promised and fully intended to pay off this year: but some of your worships and reverences telling me, that the two subjects, especially so connected together, might endanger the morals of the world, — I pray the chapter upon chamber-maids and button-holes may be forgiven me,— and that they will accept of the last chapter in lieu of it; which is nothing, an't please your reverences, but a chapter of *chamber-maids, green-gowns, and old hats*.

Trim took his off the ground,—put it upon his head,—and then went on with his oration upon death, in manner and form following.

C H A P. IX.

—To us, *Jonathan*, who know not what want or care is—who live here in the service of two of the best of masters—(bating in my own case his majesty King *William* the Third, whom I had the honour to serve both in *Ireland* and *Flanders*)—I own it, that from *Whitsontide* to within three weeks of *Christmas*,—’tis not long—’tis like nothing;—but to those, *Jonathan*, who knew what death is, and what havock and destruction he can make, before a man can well wheel about—’tis like a whole age.—O *Jonathan*! ’twould make a good-natured man’s heart bleed, to consider, continued the corporal, (standing perpendicularly) how low many a brave and upright fellow has been laid since that time!—And trust

me, *Susy*, added the corporal, turning to *Susannah*, whose eyes were swimming in water,—before that time comes round again,—many a bright eye will be dim.—*Susannah* placed it to the right side of the page—she wept—but she court'ied too.—Are we not, continued *Trim*, looking still at *Susannah*—are we not like a flower of the field—a tear of pride stole in betwixt every two tears of humiliation—else no tongue could have described *Susannah's* affliction—is not all flesh grass?—'Tis clay—'tis dirt.—They all looked directly at the scullion,—the scullion had just been scouring a fish-kettle.—It was not fair.

——What is the finest face that ever man looked at!—I could hear *Trim* talk so for ever, cried *Susannah*,—what is it! (*Susannah* laid her hand upon *Trim's* shoulder) but corruption?—*Susannah* took it off.

—Now I love you for this—and 'tis this delicious mixture within you which makes

you dear creatures what you are—and he who hates you for it—all I can say of the matter, is—That he has either a pumpkin for his head—or a pippin for his heart,—and whenever he is dissected 'twill be found so.

CHAP. X.

WHETHER *Susannah*, by taking her hand too suddenly from off the corporal's shoulder, (by the whisking about of her passions)—broke a little the chain of his reflections—

Or whether the corporal began to be suspicious, he had got into the doctor's quarters, and was talking more like the chaplain than himself—

Or whether — — — — — Or whether—for in all such cases a man of invention and parts may with pleasure fill a couple of pages with suppositions—
which.

which of all these was the cause, let the curious physiologist, or the curious any body determine——'tis certain, at least, the corporal went on thus with his harangue.

For my own part, I declare it, that out of doors, I value not death at all:—not this . . . added the corporal, snapping his fingers,—but with an air which no one but the corporal could have given to the sentiment—In battle, I value death not this . . . and let him not take me cowardly, like poor *Joe Gibbens*, in scouring his gun.—What is he? A pull of a trigger—a push of a bayonet an inch this way or that—makes the difference.—Look along the line—to the right—see! *Jack's* down! well,—'tis worth a regiment of horse to him.—No—'tis *Dick*. Then *Jack's* no worse.—Never mind which,—we pass on,—in hot pursuit the wound itself which brings him is not felt,—the best way is to

stand up to him,—the man who flies, is in ten times more danger than the man who marches up into his jaws.—I've look'd him, added the corporal, an hundred times in the face,—and know what he is.—He's nothing, *Obadiah*, at all in the field.—But he's very frightful in a house, quoth *Obadiah*.——I never mind it myself, said *Jonathan*, upon a coach-box.—It must, in my opinion, be most natural in bed, replied *Susannah*.——And could I escape him by creeping into the worst calf's-skin that ever was made into a knapsack, I would do it there—said *Trim*——but that is nature.

——Nature is nature, said *Jonathan*—And that is the reason, cried *Susannah*, I so much pity my mistress.—She will never get the better of it.—Now I pity the captain the most of any one in the family, answered *Trim*.——Madam will get ease of heart in weeping,—and the Squire in talk-
ing

ing about it,——but my poor master will keep it all in silence to himself.——I shall hear him sigh in his bed for a whole month together, as he did for lieutenant *Le Fever*. An' please your honour, do not sigh so piteously, I would say to him as I laid besides him. I cannot help it, *Trim*, my master would say,——'tis so melancholy an accident—I cannot get it off my heart.—Your honour fears not death yourself. I hope, *Trim*, I fear nothing, he would say, but the doing a wrong thing.——Well, he would add, whatever betides, I will take care of *Le Fever's* boy.——And with that, like a quieting draught, his honour would fall asleep.

I like to hear *Trim's* stories about the captain, said *Susannah*.—He is a kindly-hearted gentleman, said *Obadiab*, as ever lived.—Aye,—and as brave a one too, said the corporal, as ever slept before a platoon.

E 4 —There

—There never was a better officer in the king's army,—or a better man in God's world; for he would march up to the mouth of a cannon, though he saw the lighted match at the very touch-hole,—and yet, for all that, he has a heart as soft as a child for other people.—He would not hurt a chicken—I would sooner, quoth *Jonathan*, drive such a gentleman for seven pounds a year—than some for eight.—Thank thee, *Jonathan*! for thy twenty-shillings,—as much, *Jonathan*, said the corporal, shaking him by the hand, as if thou hadst put the money into my own pocket.—I would serve him to the day of my death out of love. He is a friend and a brother to me—and could I be sure my poor brother *Tom* was dead,—continued the corporal, taking out his handkerchief,—was I worth ten thousand pounds, I would leave every shilling of it to the captain.—*Trim* could not refrain from
tears

tears at this testamentary proof he gave of his affection to his master.—The whole kitchen was affected.—Do tell us this story of the poor lieutenant, said *Susannah*.
 —With all my heart, answered the corporal.

Susannah, the cook, *Jonathan*, *Obadiah*, and corporal *Trim*, formed a circle about the fire; and as soon as the scullion had shut the kitchen door,—the corporal begun.

C H A P. XI.

I AM a *Turk* if I had not as much forgot my mother, as if Nature had plaistered me up, and set me down naked upon the banks of the river *Nile*, without one.—Your most obedient servant, Madam— I've cost you a great deal of trouble,—I wish it may answer;—but you have left a crack in my back,—and here's a great piece fallen off here before,—and what must

must I do with this foot?——I shall never reach *England* with it.

For my own part I never wonder at any thing ;—and so often has my judgment deceived me in my life, that I always suspect it, right or wrong,—at least I am seldom hot upon cold subjects. For all this, I reverence truth as much as any body ; and when it has slipped us, if a man will but take me by the hand, and go quietly and search for it, as for a thing we have both lost, and can neither of us do well without,—I'll go to the world's end with him :
——But I hate disputes,—and therefore (bating religious points, or such as touch society) I would almost subscribe to any thing which does not choak me in the first passage, rather than be drawn into one—
But I cannot bear suffocation,——and bad smells worst of all.——For which reasons, I resolved from the beginning, That if
ever

ever the army of martyrs was to be augmented,——or a new one raised,——I would have no hand in it, one way or t'other.

C H A P. XII.

——BUT to return to my mother.

My uncle *Toby's* opinion, Madam, “that
 “ there could be no harm in *Cornelius Gal-*
 “ *lus*, the *Roman* prætor's lying with his
 “ wife;”——or rather the last word of
 that opinion,——(for it was all my mother
 heard of it) caught hold of her by the weak
 part of the whole sex:——You shall not
 mistake me,——I mean her curiosity,——she
 instantly concluded herself the subject of
 the conversation, and with that prepos-
 session upon her fancy, you will readily
 conceive every word my father said, was
 accommodated either to herself, or her fa-
 mily concerns.

——Pray,

—Pray, Madam, in what street does the lady live, who would not have done the same?

From the strange mode of *Cornelius's* death, my father had made a transition to that of *Socrates*, and was giving my uncle *Toby* an abstract of his pleading before his judges;—'twas irresistible:—not the oration of *Socrates*,—but my father's temptation to it.—He had wrote the * *Life of Socrates* himself the year before he left off trade, which, I fear, was the means of hastening him out of it; so that no one was able to set out with so full a sail, and in so swelling a tide of heroic loftiness upon the occasion, as my father was. Not a period in *Socrates's* oration, which closed with a

* This book my father would never consent to publish; 'tis in manuscript, with some other tracts of his, in the family, all, or most of which will be printed in due time.

shorter

shorter word than *transmigration*, or *annihilation*,—or a worse thought in the middle of it than *to be—or not to be*,—the entering upon a new and untried state of things,—or, upon a long, a profound and peaceful sleep, without dreams, without disturbance; ———*That we and our children were born to die,—but neither of us born to be slaves.*———
 No—there I mistake; that was part of *Eleazer's* oration, as recorded by *Josephus* (*de Bell. Judaic.*)——*Eleazer* owns he had it from the philosophers of *India*; in all likelihood *Alexander* the Great, in his irruption into *India*, after he had overrun *Persia*, amongst the many things he stole,——stole that sentiment also; by which means it was carried, if not all the way by himself, (for we all know he died at *Babylon*) at least by some of his maroders, into *Greece*,—from *Greece* it got to *Rome*,—from *Rome* to *France*,—and from *France* to *England*:———So things come round.———

By land carriage, I can conceive no other way.——

By water the sentiment might easily have come down the *Ganges* into the *Sinus Gangeticus*, or *Bay of Bengal*, and so into the *Indian Sea*; and following the course of trade, (the way from *India* by the *Cape of Good hope* being then unknown) might be carried with other drugs and spices up the *Red Sea* to *Joddah*, the port of *Mekka*, or else to *Ter* or *Sues*, towns at the bottom of the gulf; and from thence by karrawans to *Coptos*, but three days journey distant, so down the *Nile* directly to *Alexandria*, where the SENTIMENT would be landed at the very foot of the great stair-case of the *Alexandrian* library,——and from that storehouse it would be fetched.——Bless me! what a trade was driven by the learned in those days!

C H A P. XIII.

—**N**OW my father had a way a little like that of *Job's* (in case, there ever was such a man—if not, there's an end of the matter.)—

Though, by the bye, because your learned men find some difficulty in fixing the precise æra in which so great a man lived;—whether, for instance, before or after the patriarchs, &c.—to vote, therefore, that he never lived *at all*, is a little cruel,——'tis not doing as they would be done by——happen that as it may.—My father, I say, had a way, when things went extremely wrong with him, especially upon the first sally of his impatience,—of wondering why he was begot,—wishing himself dead;—sometimes worse:—And when the provocation ran high, and grief touched his lips with more than ordinary powers,—Sir, you scarce could have distinguished

stinguished him from *Socrates* himself.—

Every word would breathe the sentiments of a soul disdaining life, and careless about all its issues ; for which reason, though my mother was a woman of no deep reading, yet the abstract of *Socrates's* oration, which my father was giving my uncle *Toby*, was not altogether new to her.—She listened to it with composed intelligence, and would have done so to the end of the chapter, had not my father plunged (which he had no occasion to have done) into that part of the pleading where the great philosopher reckons up his connections, his alliances, and children ; but renounces a security to be so won by working upon the passions of his judges.—“ I have friends—
“ I have relations,——I have three desolate children,”——says *Socrates*.

——Then, cried my mother, opening the door,——you have one more, Mr. *Slandy*, than I know of.

By

By heaven ! I have one less,—said my father, getting up and walking out of the room.

C H A P. XIV.

—They are *Secrates's* children, said my uncle *Toby*. He has been dead a hundred years ago, replied my mother.

My uncle *Toby* was no chronologer—so not caring to advance a step but upon safe ground, he laid down his pipe deliberately upon the table, and rising up, and taking my mother most kindly by the hand, without saying another word, either good or bad, to her, he led her out after my father, that he might finish the *ecclaircissement* himself.

C H A P. XV.

HAD this volume been a farce, which, unless every one's life and opinions are to be looked upon as a farce as well as

Vol. IV. F mine,

mine, I see no reason to suppose—the last chapter, Sir, had finished the first act of it, and then this chapter must have set off thus.

Ptr..r..r..ing—twing—twang—prut—
 trut——'tis a cursed bad fiddle.—Do you
 know whether my fiddle's in tune or no?
 trut..prut—They should be *fifths*—'Tis
 wickedly strung—tr...a.e.i.o.u.-twang.—
 The bridge is a mile too high, and the
 sound-post absolutely down,—else—trut..
 prut—hark! 'tis not so bad a tone.—Did-
 dle diddle, diddle diddle, diddle diddle,
 dum. There is nothing in playing before
 good judges,—but there's a man there—no
 —not him with the bundle under his arm
 —the grave man in black.—S'death!
 not the gentleman with the sword on.—
 Sir, I had rather play a *Caprichio* to *Calli-*
ope herself, than draw my bow across my
 fiddle before that very man; and yet, I'll
 stake my *Cremona* to a *Jew's* trump, which

is the greatest musical odds that ever were laid, that I will this moment stop three hundred and fifty leagues out of tune upon my fiddle, without punishing one single nerve that belongs to him.—Twaddle diddle, tweddle diddle,—twiddle diddle, —twoddle diddle,—twuddle diddle, —prut trut—krish—krash—krush. —I've undone you, Sir,—but you see he is no worse,—and was *Apollo* to take his fiddle after me, he can make him no better.

Diddle diddle, diddle diddle, diddle diddle—hum—dum—drum.

—Your worships and your reverences love musick—and God has made you all with good ears—and some of you play delightfully yourselves—trut-prut,—prut-trut.

O ! there is—whom I could sit and hear whole days,—whose talents lie in making

what he fiddles to be felt,—who inspires me with his joys and hopes, and puts the most hidden springs of my heart into motion.—If you would borrow five guineas of me, Sir,—which is generally ten guineas more than I have to spare—or you, Messrs. Apothecary and Taylor, want your bills paying,—that's your time.

C H A P. XVI.

THE first thing which entered my father's head, after affairs were a little settled in the family, and *Susannah* had got possession of my mother's green sattin night-gown,—was to sit down coolly, after the example of *Xenophon*, and write a *TRISTRÆ-pædia*, or system of education for me; collecting first for that purpose his own scattered thoughts, counsels, and notions; and binding them together, so as to form an INSTITUTE for the government of my childhood and adolescence. I was
my

my father's last stake—he had lost my brother *Bobby* entirely,—he had lost, by his own computation, full three-fourths of me—that is, he had been unfortunate in his three first great casts for me—my genotype, nose, and name,—there was but this one left; and accordingly my father gave himself up to it with as much devotion as ever my uncle *Toby* had done to his doctrine of projectiles.—The difference between them was, that my uncle *Toby* drew his whole knowledge of projectiles from *Nicholas Tartaglia*—My father spun his, every thread of it, out of his own brain,—or reeled and cross-twisted what all other spinners and spinsters had spun before him, that 'twas pretty near the same torture to him.

In about three years, or something more, my father had got advanced almost into the middle of his work. Like all other writers, he met with disappointments.—He

imagined he should be able to bring whatever he had to say, into so small compass, that when it was finished and bound, it might be rolled up in my mother's huffive.—Matter grows under our hands.—Let no man say,—“ Come—I'll write a *duodecimo*.”

My father gave himself up to it, however, with the most painful diligence, proceeding step by step in every line, with the same kind of caution and circumspection (though I cannot say upon quite so religious a principle) as was used by *John de la Casse*, the lord archbishop of *Benevento*, in compassing his *Galatea*; in which his Grace of *Benevento* spent near forty years of his life; and when the thing came out, it was not of above half the size or the thickness of a *Rider's Almanack*.—How the holy man managed the affair, unless he spent the greatest part of his time in comb-

ing his whiskers, or playing at *primero* with his chaplain,—would pose any mortal not let into the true secret ;—and therefore 'tis worth explaining to the world, was it only for the encouragement of those few in it, who write not so much to be fed—as to be famous.

I own had *John de la Casse*, the archbishop of *Benevento*, for whose memory (notwithstanding his *Galatea*) I retain the highest veneration,—had he been, Sir, a slender clerk,—of dull wit—slow parts—costive head, and so forth,—he and his *Galatea* might have jogged on together to the age of *Methuselah* for me,—the phænomenon had not been worth a parenthesis.—

But the reverse of this was the truth : *John de la Casse* was a genius of fine parts and fertile fancy ; and yet with all these great advantages of nature, which should have pricked him forwards with his *Gala-*

tea, he lay under an impuissance at the same time of advancing above a line and an half in the compass of a whole summer's day : this disability in his Grace arose from an opinion he was afflicted with,—which opinion was this,—*viz.* that whenever a Christian was writing a book (not for his private amusement, but) where his intent and purpose was *bená fide*, to print and publish it to the world, his first thoughts were always the temptations of the evil one.—This was the state of ordinary writers : but when a personage of venerable character and high station, either in church or state, once turned author,——he maintained that from the very moment he took pen in hand—all the devils in hell broke out of their holes to cajole him.—'Twas Term-time with them,—every thought, first and last, was captious ;—how specious and good soever,—'twas all one ;—in whatever form or colour it presented itself to the
imagi-

imagination,—'twas still a stroke of one or other of 'em levelled at him, and was to be fenced off.—So that the life of a writer, whatever he might fancy to the contrary, was not so much a state of *composition*, as a state of *warfare*; and his probation in it, precisely that of any other man militant upon earth,—both depending alike, not half so much upon the degrees of his WIT—as his RESISTANCE.

My father was hugely pleased with this theory of *John de la Casse*, archbishop of *Benevento*; and (had it not cramped him a little in his creed) I believe would have given ten of the best acres in the *Shandy* estate, to have been the broacher of it.—How far my father actually believed in the devil, will be seen, when I come to speak of my father's religious notions, in the progress of this work: 'tis enough to say here, as he could not have the honour of it, in
the

the literal sense of the doctrine——he took up with the allegory of it ;——and would often say, especially when his pen was a little retrograde, there was as much good meaning, truth, and knowledge, couched under the veil of *John de la Casse's* parabolical representation,——as was to be found in any one poetic fiction, or mystic record of antiquity.—Prejudice of education, he would say, *is the devil*,—and the multitudes of them which we suck in with our mother's milk—*are the devil and all*.——We are haunted with them, brother *Toby*, in all our lucubrations and researches ; and was a man fool enough to submit tamely to what they obtruded upon him,—what would his book be ? Nothing,—he would add, throwing his pen away with a vengeance,—nothing but a farrago of the clack of nurses, and of the nonsense of the old women (of both sexes) throughout the kingdom.

This

This is the best account I am determined to give of the slow progress my father made in his *Tristram-pædia*; at which (as I said) he was three years and something more, indefatigably at work, and at last, had scarce completed, by his own reckoning, one half of his undertaking: the misfortune was, that I was all that time totally neglected and abandoned to my mother; and what was almost as bad, by the very delay, the first part of the work, upon which my father had spent the most of his pains, was rendered entirely useless,—— every day a page or two became of no consequence.——

—Certainly it was ordained as a scourge upon the pride of human wisdom, That the wisest of us all, should thus outwit ourselves, and eternally forego our purposes in the intemperate act of pursuing them.

In

In short, my father was so long in all his acts of resistance,—or in other words,—he advanced so very slow with his work, and I began to live and get forwards at such a rate, that if an event had not happened,——which, when we get to it, if it can be told with decency, shall not be concealed a moment from the reader——I verily believe, I had put by my father, and left him drawing a sun-dial, for no better purpose than to be buried under ground.

C H A P. XVII.

—’T WAS nothing,—I did not lose two drops of blood by it—— ’twas not worth calling in a surgeon, had he lived next door to us—thousands suffer by choice, what I did by accident.—Doctor *Slop* made ten times more of it, than there was occasion :——some men rise, by the art of hanging great weights upon small
wires,

wires,—and I am this day (*August* the 10th, 1761) paying part of the price of this man's reputation.—O 'twould provoke a stone, to see how things are carried on in this world!—The chamber-maid had left no ***** under the bed:—Cannot you contrive, master, quoth *Susannah*, lifting up the sash with one hand, as she spoke, and helping me up into the window seat with the other,—cannot you manage, my dear, for a single time to *****?

I was five years old.—*Susannah* did not consider that nothing was well hung in our family,—so flap came the sash down like lightening upon us;—Nothing is left,—cried *Susannah*,—nothing is left—for me, but to run my country.—

My uncle *Toby's* house was a much kinder sanctuary; and so *Susannah* fled to it.

C H A P. XVIII.

WHEN *Susannah* told the corporal the misadventure of the sash, with all the circumstances which attended the murder of me, — (as she called it) — the blood forsook his cheeks; — all accessories in murder, being principals, — *Tim*'s conscience told him he was as much to blame as *Susannah*, — and if the doctrine had been true, my uncle *Toby* had as much of the bloodshed to answer for to heaven, as either of 'em; — so that neither reason or instinct, separate or together, could possibly have guided *Susannah*'s steps to so proper an asylum. It is in vain to leave this to the Reader's imagination: — to form any kind of hypothesis that will render these propositions feasible, he must cudgel his brains fore, — and to do it without, — he must have such brains as no reader ever had before him.

him.—Why should I put them either to
 trial or to torture? 'Tis my own affair:
 I'll explain it myself.

C H A P. XIX.

'TIS a pity, *Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*,
 resting with his hand upon the cor-
 poral's shoulder, as they both stood sur-
 veying their works,—that we have not
 a couple of field-pieces to mount in the
 gorge of that new redoubt;—'twould
 secure the lines all along there, and make
 the attack on that side quite complete:—
 get me a couple cast, *Trim*.

Your honour shall have them, replied
Trim, before to-morrow morning.

It was the joy of *Trim*'s heart,—nor was
 his fertile head ever at a loss for expedients
 in doing it, to supply my uncle *Toby* in his
 campaigns, with whatever his fancy called
 for ;

for ; had it been his last crown, he would have fate down and hammered it into a paderero to have prevented a single wish in his Master. The corporal had already,—— what with cutting off the ends of my uncle *Toby's* spouts——hacking and chiseling up the sides of his leaden gutters,——melting down his pewter shaving bason,——and going at last, like *Lewis* the fourteenth, on to the top of the church, for spare ends, &c.—he had that very campaign brought no less than eight new battering cannons, besides three demi-culverins into the field ; my uncle *Toby's* demand for two more pieces for the redoubt, had set the corporal at work again ; and no better resource offering, he had taken the two leaden weights from the nursery window : and as the sash pullies, when the lead was gone, were of no kind of use, he had taken them away also, to make a couple of wheels for one of their carriages.

He had dismantled every sash window in my uncle *Toby's* house long before, in the very same way,—though not always in the same order; for sometimes the pullies had been wanted, and not the lead,—so then he began with the pullies,—and the pullies being picked out, then the lead became useless,—and so the lead went to pot too.

—A great MORAL might be picked handsomely out of this, but I have not time—'tis enough to say, wherever the demolition began, 'twas equally fatal to the sash window.

C H A P. XX.

THE corporal had not taken his measures so badly in this stroke of artilleryship, but that he might have kept the matter entirely to himself, and left *Susannah* to have sustained the whole weight of the attack, as she could;—true courage

is not content with coming off so.—The corporal, whether as general or comptroller of the train,—’twas no matter,—had done that, without which, as he imagined, the misfortune could never have happened, *at least in Sufannah’s hands*;—How would your honours have behaved?—He determined at once, not to take shelter behind *Sufannah*,—but to give it; and with this resolution upon his mind, he marched upright into the parlour, to lay the whole *manœuvre* before my uncle *Toby*.

My uncle *Toby* had just then been giving *Yorick* an account of the Battle of *Steenkirk*, and of the strange conduct of count *Salmes* in ordering the foot to halt, and the horse to march where it could not act; which was directly contrary to the king’s commands, and proved the loss of the day.

There are incidents in some families so pat to the purpose of what is going to follow,

low,—they are scarce exceeded by the invention of a dramatic writer ;—I mean of ancient days.——

Trim, by the help of his forefinger, laid flat upon the table, and the edge of his hand striking across it at right angles, made a shift to tell his story so, that priests and virgins might have listened to it ;—— and the story being told,——the dialogue went on as follows :

C H A P. XXI.

——I would be picquetted to death, cried the corporal, as he concluded *Susannah's* story, before I would suffer the woman to come to any harm,——'twas my fault, an please your honour,—not hers.

Corporal *Trim*, replied my uncle *Toby*, putting on his hat which lay upon the table, ——if any thing can be said to be a fault,

when the service absolutely requires it should be done,—'tis I certainly who deserve the blame,——you obeyed your orders.

Had count *Solmes*, *Trim*, done the same at the battle of *Steenkirk*, said *Yorick*, doling a little upon the corporal, who had been run over by a dragoon in the retreat,——he had saved thee;——Saved! cried *Trim*, interrupting *Yorick*, and finishing the sentence for him after his own fashion,——he had saved five battalions, an please your reverence, every soul of them:——there was *Cutts's*——continued the corporal, clapping the forefinger of his right hand upon the thumb of his left, and counting round his hand,—there was *Cutts's*,——*Mackay's*,——*Angus's*,——*Graham's*——and *Leven's*, all cut to pieces;——and so had the *English* lifeguards too, had it not been for some regiments upon the right, who

who marched up boldly to their relief, and received the enemy's fire in their faces, before any one of their own platoons discharged a musket,——they'll go to heaven for it,——added *Trim*.——*Trim* is right, said my uncle *Toby*, nodding to *Yorick*,——he's perfectly right. What signified his marching the horse, continued the corporal, where the ground was so strait, and the *French* had such a nation of hedges, and copses, and ditches, and fell'd trees laid this way and that to cover them ; (as they always have.)——Count *Solmes* should have sent us,——we would have fired muzzle to muzzle with them for their lives.——There was nothing to be done for the horse :——he had his foot shot off however for his pains, continued the corporal, the very next campaign at *Landen*.——Poor *Trim* got his wound there, quoth my uncle *Toby*.——'Twas owing, an please your honour, entirely to count *Solmes*,——had we

drub'd them soundly at *Steenkirk*, they would not have fought us at *Landen*.——Possibly not,——*Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*; though if they have the advantage of a wood, or you give them a moment's time to intrench themselves, they are a nation which will pop and pop for ever at you—There is no way but to march coolly up to them,—receive their fire, and fall in upon them, pell-mell—Ding dong, added *Trim*.——Horse and foot, said my uncle *Toby*.—Helter skelter, said *Trim*.—Right and left, cried my uncle *Toby*.—Blood an' ounds, shouted the corporal;—the battle raged,—*Yorick* drew his chair a little to one side for safety, and after a moment's pause, my uncle *Toby* sinking his voice a note,—resumed the discourse as follows :

C H A P. XXII.

KING *William*, said my uncle *Toby*, addressing himself to *Yorick*, was so terribly provoked at count *Solmes* for disobeying his orders, that he would not suffer him to come into his presence for many months after.—I fear, answered *Yorick*, the squire will be as much provoked at the corporal, as the King at the count.—But 'twould be singularly hard in this case, continued he, if corporal *Trim*, who has behaved so diametrically opposite to count *Solmes*, should have the fate to be rewarded with the same disgrace; —too oft in this world, do things take that train.—I would spring a mine, cried my uncle *Toby*, rising up,—and blow up my fortifications, and my house with them, and we would perish under their ruins, ere I would stand by and see it.—*Trim* directed a slight,—but a

grateful bow towards his master,——and so the chapter ends.

C H A P. XXIII.

——Then, *Yerick*, replied my uncle *Toby*, you and I will lead the way abreast,——and do you, corporal, follow a few paces behind us.——And *Susannah*, an please your honour, said *Trim*, shall be put in the rear.——'Twas an excellent disposition,——and in this order, without either drums beating, or colours flying, they marched slowly from my uncle *Toby*'s house to *Shandy hall*.

——I wish, said *Trim*, as they entered the door,——instead of the sash-weights, I had cut off the church-spout, as I once thought to have done.——You have cut off spouts enow, replied *Yerick*.——

C H A P. XXIV.

AS many pictures as have been given of my father, how like him soever in different airs and attitudes,—not one, or all of them, can ever help the reader to any kind of preconception of how my father would think, speak, or act, upon any untried occasion or occurrence of life.—There was that infinitude of oddities in him, and of chances along with it, by which handle he would take a thing,—it baffled, Sir, all calculations.—The truth was, his road lay so very far on one side, from that wherein most men travelled,—that every object before him presented a face and section of itself to his eye, altogether different from the plan and elevation of it seen by the rest of mankind.—In other words, 'twas a different object,—and in course was differently considered:

This

This is the true reason, that my dear *Jenny* and I, as well as all the world besides us, have such eternal squabbles about nothing.—She looks at her outside,—I, at her in.—How is it possible we should agree about her value?

C H A P. XXV.

TIS a point settled,—and I mention it for the comfort of † *Confucius*, who is apt to get entangled in telling a plain story——that provided he keeps along the line of his story,—he may go backwards and forwards as he will,—’tis still held to be no digression.

This being premised, I take the benefit of the *act of going backwards* myself.

† Mr. *Shandy* is supposed to mean *****
 , Esq; member for **,——and not
 the *Chinese* Legislator.

C H A P. XXVI.

FIFTY thousand pannier loads of devils—(not of the Archbishop of *Benevento*'s,—I mean of *Rabelais*'s devils) with their tails chopped off by their rumps, could not have made so diabolical a scream of it, as I did—when the accident befel me: it summoned up my mother instantly into the nursery,——so that *Susannah* had but just time to make her escape down the back stairs, as my mother came up the fore.

Now, though I was old enough to have told the story myself,—and young enough, I hope, to have done it without malignity; yet *Susannah*, in passing by the kitchen, for fear of accidents, had left it in shorthand with the cook—the cook had told it with a commentary to *Jonathan*, and *Jonathan* to *Oladiab*; so that by the time my father had rung the bell half a dozen times,

to

to know what was the matter above,—was *Obadiab* enabled to give him a particular account of it, just as it had happened.—I thought as much, said my father, tucking up his night-gown ;——and so walked up stairs.

One would imagine from this—(though for my own part I somewhat question it)—that my father before that time, had actually wrote that remarkable chapter in the *Tristrapædia*, which to me is the most original and entertaining one in the whole book ;—and that is the *chapter upon sesh-windows*, with a bitter *Philippick* at the end of it, upon the forgetfulness of chambermaids.—I have but two reasons for thinking otherwise.

First, Had the matter been taken into consideration, before the event happened, my father certainly would have nailed up
the

the fash-window for good an' all ;—which, considering with what difficulty he composed books,—he might have done with ten times less trouble than he could have wrote the chapter : this argument I foresee holds good against his writing the chapter, even after the event ; but 'tis obviated under the second reason, which I have the honour to offer to the world in support of my opinion, that my father did not write the chapter upon fash-windows and chamber-pots, at the time supposed,—and it is this.

——That, in order to render the *Tristrapædia* complete,—I wrote the chapter myself.

C H A P. XXVII.

MY father put on his spectacles—look-
ed,—took them off,—put them into
the case—all in less than a statutable mi-
nute ;

nute ; and without opening his lips, turned about, and walked precipitately down stairs: my mother imagined he had stepped down for lint and basilicon ; but seeing him return with a couple of folios under his arm, and *Obadiab* following him with a large reading desk, she took it for granted 'twas an herbal, and so drew him a chair to the bedside, that he might consult upon the case at his ease.

—If it be but right done,—said my father, turning to the *Section—de sede vel sub-jecto circumcisionis*,——for he had brought up *Spencer de Legibus Hebræorum Ritualibus*—and *Maimonides*, in order to confront and examine us altogether.——

——If it be but right done, quoth he :
——Only tell us, cried my mother, interrupting him, what herbs.——For that, replied my father, you must send for Dr. *Slop*.

My mother went down, and my father went on, reading the section as follows:

* * * * *
* * * * * _____

Very well,—said my father, * * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *—nay, if it has that convenience——and so without stopping a moment to settle it first in his mind, whether the *Jews* had it from the *Egyptians*, or the *Egyptians* from the *Jews*,—he rose up, and rubbing his forehead two or three times across with the palm of his hand, in the manner we rub out the footsteps of care, when evil has trod lighter upon us than we foreboded,—he shut the book, and walked down stairs.—Nay, said he, mentioning the name of a different great nation upon every step as he set his foot upon it—if the EGYPTIANS,—the SYRIANS,—the PHOENICIANS,—the ARABIANS,—the CAPADOCIANS,——if the COLCHI, and TROGLODYTES

GLODYTES did it—if SOLON and PYTHAGORAS submitted,—what is TRISTRAM? —Who am I, that I should fret or fume one moment about the matter?

C H A P. XXVIII.

DEAR *Yorick*, said my father smiling, (for *Yorick* had broke his rank with my uncle *Toby* in coming through the narrow entry, and so had stept first into the parlour)—this *Tristram* of ours, I find, comes very hardly by all his religious rites, —Never was the son of *Jew*, *Christian*, *Turk*, or *Infidel* initiated into them in so oblique and slovenly a manner.—But he is no worse, I trust, said *Yorick*.—There has been certainly, continued my father, the duce and all to do in some part or other of the ecliptic, when this offspring of mine was formed.—That you are a better judge of than I, replied *Yorick*.—Astrologers,

6

quoth

quoth my father, know better than us both:—the trine and sextil aspects have jumped awry,—or the opposite of their ascendants have not hit it, as they should,—or the lords of the genitures (as they call them) have been at *bo-peep*,—or something has been wrong above, or below with us.

'Tis possible, answered *Yorick*.—But is the child, cried my uncle *Toby*, the worse?—The *Troglodytes* say not, replied my father.—And your theologists, *Yorick*, tell us—Theologically? said *Yorick*,—or speaking after the manner of * apothecaries?—† statesmen?—or ‡ washer-women?

——I'm not sure, replied my father,—but they tell us, brother *Toby*, he's the

* Χαλεπῆς νόσος, καὶ δυσίατη ἀπαλλαγή, ἣν αἰθρῶν καλοῦσιν. PHILO.

† Τὰ τεμνόμενα τῶν ἐθνῶν πολυγυνατάτα, καὶ πολυαιθρωπότατα εἶναι.

‡ Καθαρὸς εἶναι.

BOCHART.

VOL. IV.

H

better



better for it. — Provided, said *Yerick*, you travel him into *Egypt*. — Of that, answered my father, he will have the advantage, when he sees the *Pyramids*. —

Now every word of this, quoth my uncle *Toby*, is *Arabick* to me. — I wish, said *Yerick*, 'twas so—to half the world.

—* *ILUS*, continued my father, circumcised his whole army one morning.—Not without a court-martial? cried my uncle *Toby*. — Though the learned, continued he, taking no notice of my uncle *Toby*'s remark, but turning to *Yerick*,—are greatly divided still who *Ilus* was ;—some say *Saturn* ;—some the supreme being ;—others, no more than a brigadier general under *Pharaoh-neco*. — Let him be who he will, said my uncle *Toby*, I know not by what article of war he could justify it.

* 'Ο Ιλος, τὰ αἰδοῖα περιτέμνεται. ταυτὸ ποιῆσαι καὶ τὸς ἄμ' αὐτῷ συμμαχῶν κατανασκάσας.

SANCHUNIATHO.

The

The controvertists, answered my father, assign two and twenty different reasons for it : — others, indeed, who have drawn their pens on the opposite side of the question, have shewn the world the futility of the greatest part of them. — But then again, our best polemic divines — I wish there was not a polemic divine, said *Yorick*, in the kingdom ; — one ounce of practical divinity is worth a painted ship load of all their reverences have imported these fifty years — Pray, Mr. *Yorick*, quoth my uncle *Toby*, — do tell me what a polemic divine is. — The best description, captain *Shandy*, I have ever read, is of a couple of 'em, replied *Yorick*, in the account of the battle fought single hands betwixt *Gymnast* and captain *Tripet* ; which I have in my pocket. — I beg I may hear it, quoth my uncle *Toby* earnestly. — You shall, said *Yorick*. — And as the corporal is waiting for me at the door, — and I know the description of

a battle will do the poor fellow more good than his supper,—I beg, brother, you'll give him leave to come in.—With all my soul, said my father.—*Trim* came in, erect and happy as an emperour; and having shut the door, *Yerick* took a book from his right-hand coat pocket, and read, or pretended to read, as follows:

C H A P. XXIX.

—“ which words being heard by all
 “ the soldiers which were there, divers of
 “ them being inwardly terrified, did shrink
 “ back and make room for the assailant :
 “ all this did *Gymnast* very well remark.
 “ and consider ; and therefore, making as
 “ if he would have alighted from off
 “ his horse, as he was poising himself on
 “ the mounting-side, he most nimbly
 “ (with his short sword by his thigh)
 “ shifting his feet in the stirrup and per-
 “ forming the stirrup-leather feat, where-
 “ by,

“ by, after the inclining of his body down-
 “ wards, he forthwith launched himself
 “ aloft into the air, and placed both his
 “ feet together upon the saddle, standing
 “ upright, with his back turned towards
 “ his horse’s head,—Now (said he) my
 “ case goes forward. Then suddenly in
 “ the same posture wherein he was, he
 “ fetched a gambol upon one foot, and
 “ turning to the left-hand, failed not to
 “ carry his body perfectly round, just into
 “ his former position, without missing one
 “ jot.—Ha ! said *Tripet*, I will not do
 “ that at this time,—and not without
 “ cause. Well, said *Gymnast*, I have fail-
 “ ed,—I will undo this leap ; then with
 “ a marvellous strength and agility, turn-
 “ ing towards the right-hand, he fetched
 “ another frisking gambol as before ;
 “ which done, he set his right-hand thumb
 “ upon the bow of the saddle, raised him-
 “ self up, and sprung into the air, poising

“ and upholding his whole weight upon
 “ the muscle and nerve of the said thumb,
 “ and so turned and whirled himself about
 “ three times : at the fourth, reversing
 “ his body and overturning it upside-
 “ down, and forside back, without *touch-*
 “ *ing any thing*, he brought himself betwixt
 “ the horse’s two ears, and then giving
 “ himself a jerking swing, he seated him-
 “ self upon the crupper——”

(This can’t be fighting, said my uncle
Toby.——The corporal shook his head at
 it.——Have patience, said *Yorick*.)

“ Then (*Tripet*) pass’d his right leg
 “ over his saddle, and placed himself *en*
 “ *croup*.——But, said he, ’twere better for
 “ me to get into the saddle ; then putting
 “ the thumbs of both hands upon the
 “ crupper before him, and thereupon
 “ leaning himself, as upon the only sup-
 “ porters of his body, he incontinently

“ turned heels over head in the air, and
 “ straight found himself betwixt the bow
 “ of the saddle in a tolerable seat; then
 “ springing into the air with a summer-set,
 “ he turned him about like a wind-mill,
 “ and made above a hundred frisks, turns
 “ and demi-pommadas.”——Good God!
 cried *Trim*, losing all patience,—one home
 thrust of a bayonet is worth it all.——I
 think so too, replied *Yorick*.——

——I am of a contrary opinion, quoth my father.

C H A P. XXX.

——No,——I think I have advanced no-
 thing, replied my father, making answer
 to a question which *Yorick* had taken the
 liberty to put to him,—I have advanced
 nothing in the *Tristrapædia*, but what is
 as clear as any one proposition in *Euclid*.
 ——Reach me, *Trim*, that book from off

the scrutoir :——it has oft times been in my mind, continued my father, to have read it over both to you, *Yerick*, and to my brother *Toby*, and I think it a little unfriendly in myself, in not having done it long ago :——shall we have a short chapter or two now,—and a chapter or two hereafter, as occasions serve ; and so on, till we get through the whole ? My uncle *Toby* and *Yerick* made the obeisance which was proper ; and the corporal, though he was not included in the compliment, laid his hand upon his breast, and made his bow at the same time.——The company smiled. *Trim*, quoth my father, has paid the full price for staying out the *entertainment*.——He did not seem to relish the play, replied *Yerick*.——’Twas a Tomfool-battle, an’ please your reverence, of captain *Trip-let*’s and that other officer, making so many summersets, as they advanced ;——the *French* come on capering now and then in that way,—but not quite so much.

My

My uncle *Toby* never felt the consciousness of his existence with more complacency than what the corporal's, and his own reflections, made him do at that moment ;—he lighted his pipe,—*Yorick* drew his chair closer to the table,—*Trim* snuff'd the candle,—my father stir'd up the fire,—took up the book,—cough'd twice, and begun.

C H A P. XXXI.

TH E first thirty pages, said my father, turning over the leaves,—are a little dry ; and as they are not closely connected with the subject,——for the present we'll pass them by : 'tis a prefatory introduction, continued my father, or an introductory preface (for I am not determined which name to give it) upon political or civil government ; the foundation of which being laid in the first conjunction betwixt
male

male and female, for procreation of the species—I was insensibly led into it.—
'Twas natural, said *Yorick*.

The original of society, continued my father, I'm satisfied is, what *Politian* tells us, *i. e.* merely conjugal; and nothing more than the getting together of one man and one woman;—to which, (according to *Hesiod*) the philosopher adds a servant:—but supposing in the first beginning there were no men servants born—he lays the foundation of it, in a man,—a woman—and a bull.—I believe 'tis an ox, quoth *Yorick*, quoting the passage (οἶκον μὲν πρῶ-
τισα, γυναῖκα τε, βὺν τ' ἀροτῆρα.)—A bull must have given more trouble than his head was worth.—But there is a better reason still, said my father, (dipping his pen into his ink) for, the ox being the most patient of animals, and the most useful withal in tilling the ground for their
nourish-

nourishment,—was the properest instrument, and emblem too, for the new joined couple, that the creation could have associated with them.—And there is a stronger reason, added my uncle *Toby*, than them all for the ox.—My father had not power to take his pen out of his ink-horn, till he had heard my uncle *Toby's* reason.—For when the ground was tilled, said my uncle *Toby*, and made worth inclosing, then they began to secure it by walls and ditches, which was the origin of fortification.—True, true; dear *Toby*, cried my father, striking out the bull, and putting the ox in his place.

My father gave *Trim* a nod, to snuff the candle, and resumed his discourse.

——I enter upon this speculation, said my father carelessly, and half-shutting the book, as he went on,—merely to shew the foundation of the natural relation between
a father

a father and his child ; the right and jurisdiction over whom he acquires these several ways—

1st, by marriage.

2d, by adoption.

3d, by legitimation.

And 4th, by procreation ; all which I consider in their order.

I lay a slight stress upon one of them ; replied *Yorick*—the act, especially where it ends there, in my opinion, lays as little obligation upon the child, as it conveys power to the father.—You are wrong,—said my father argutely, and for this plain reason * * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *.—I own, added my father, that the offspring, upon this account, is not so under the power and jurisdiction of the

the *mother*.—But the reason, replied *Yorick*, equally holds good for her.—She is under authority herself, said my father :—and besides, continued my father, nodding his head and laying his finger upon the side of his nose, as he assigned his reason,—*she is not the principal agent*, *Yorick*.—In what? quoth my uncle *Toby*, stopping his pipe.—Though by all means, added my father (not attending to my uncle *Toby*) “ *The son ought to pay her respect,*” as you may read, *Yorick*, at large in the first book of the *Institutes of Justinian*, at the eleventh title and the tenth section.—I can read it as well, replied *Yorick*, in the *Catechism*.

C H A P. XXXII.

TRIM can repeat every word of it by heart, quoth my uncle *Toby*.—Pugh! said my father, not caring to be interrupted with *Trim*’s saying his *Catechism*.—He
can,

can, upon my honour, replied my uncle *Toby*. Ask him, *Mr. Yerrick*, any question you please.——

——The fifth Commandment, *Trim*,——said *Yerrick*, speaking mildly, and with a gentle nod, as to a modest Catechumen. The corporal stood silent.—You don't ask him right, said my uncle *Toby*, raising his voice, and giving it rapidly like the word of command ;——The fifth ——cried my uncle *Toby*.—I must begin with the first, an' please your honour, said the corporal.——

——*Yerrick* could not forbear smiling.—Your reverence does not consider, said the corporal, shouldering his stick like a musket, and marching into the middle of the room, to illustrate his position,—that 'tis exactly the same thing, as doing one's exercise in the field.——

“ *Join*

“ *Join your right hand to your firelock,*” cried the corporal, giving the word of command, and performing the motion.—

“ *Poise your firelock,*” cried the corporal, doing the duty still of both adjutant and private man.—

“ *Rest your firelock ;*” —one motion, an’ please your reverence, you see leads into another.—If his honour will begin but with the *first*—

THE FIRST—cried my uncle *Toby*, setting his hand upon his side—* * * * *

THE SECOND—cried my uncle *Toby*, waving his tobacco-pipe, as he would have done his sword at the head of a regiment.—The corporal went through his *manual* with exactness ; and having *honoured his*
father

father and mother, made a low bow, and fell back to the side of the room.

Every thing in this world, said my father, is big with jest, and has wit in it, and instruction too,—if we can but find it out.

—Here is the *scaffold work* of INSTRUCTION, its true point of folly, without the BUILDING behind it.——

—Here is the glass for pedagogues, preceptors, tutors, governours, gerund-grinders and bear-leaders to view themselves in, in their true dimensions.——

Oh ! there is a husk and shell, *Yorick*, which grows up with learning, which their unskilfulness knows not how to fling away !

——SCIENCES MAY BE LEARNED BY ROTE, BUT WISDOM NOT.

Yorick.

Yorick thought my father inspired.—I will enter into obligations this moment, said my father, to lay out all my aunt *Dinah*'s legacy, in charitable uses (of which, by the bye, my father had no high opinion) if the corporal has any one determinate idea annexed to any one word he has repeated.—Prythee, *Trim*, quoth my father, turning round to him,—What dost thou mean, by “*honouring thy father and mother?*”

Allowing them, an' please your honour, three-halfpence a day out of my pay, when they grew old.—And didst thou do that, *Trim*? said *Yorick*.—He did indeed, replied my uncle *Toby*.—Then, *Trim*, said *Yorick*, springing out of his chair, and taking the corporal by the hand, thou art the best commentator upon that part of the *Decalogue*; and I honour thee more for it, corporal *Trim*, than if thou hadst had a hand in the *Talmud* itself.

C H A P. XXXIII.

O Blessed health ! cried my father, making an exclamation, as he turned over the leaves to the next chapter,—thou art above all gold and treasure ; 'tis thou who enlargest the soul,——and openest all its powers to receive instruction and to relish virtue.—He that has thee, has little more to wish for ;—and he that is so wretched as to want thee,——wants every thing with thee.

I have concentrated all that can be said upon this important head, said my father, into a very little room ; therefore we'll read the chapter quite thro'.

My father read as follows :

“ The whole secret of health depending
 “ upon the due contention for mastery between
 “ twixt the radical heat and the radical
 “ moisture”

“moisture”—You have proved that matter of fact, I suppose, above, said *Yorick*. Sufficiently, replied my father.

In saying this, my father shut the book, —not as if he resolved to read no more of it, for he kept his forefinger in the chapter:—nor pettishly,—for he shut the book slowly; his thumb resting, when he had done it, upon the upper-side of the cover, as his three fingers supported the lower-side of it, without the least compressive violence.—

I have demonstrated the truth of that point, quoth my father, nodding to *Yorick*, most sufficiently in the preceding chapter.

Now could the man in the moon be told, that a man in the earth had wrote a chapter, sufficiently demonstrating, That the secret of all health depended upon the due contention for mastery betwixt the *radical*

heat and the *radical moisture*,—and that he had managed the point so well, that there was not one single word wet or dry upon radical heat or radical moisture, throughout the whole chapter,—or a single syllable in it, *pro* or *con*, directly or indirectly, upon the contention betwixt these two powers in any part of the animal œconomy——

“ O thou eternal maker of all beings !”
—he would cry, striking his breast with his right hand, (in case he had one)——
“ Thou whose power and goodness can
“ enlarge the faculties of thy creatures to
“ this infinite degree of excellence and
“ perfection,—What have we MOONITES
“ done ?”

C H A P. XXXIV.

WITH two strokes, the one at *Ilipe-
perates*, the other at Lord *Verulam*,
did my father atchieve it.

The

The stroke at the prince of physicians, with which he began, was no more than a short insult upon his sorrowful complaint of the *Ars longa*,—and *Vita brevis*.—Life short, cried my father,—and the art of healing tedious! And who are we to thank for both the one and the other, but the ignorance of quacks themselves,—and the stage-loads of chymical nostrums, and peripatetic lumber, with which, in all ages, they have first flatter'd the world, and at last deceived it.

—O my lord *Verulam*! cried my father, turning from *Hippocrates*, and making his second stroke at him, as the principal of nostrum-mongers, and the fittest to be made an example of to the rest,——What shall I say to thee, my great lord *Verulam*? What shall I say to thy internal spirit,—thy opium,—thy saltpetre,—thy greasy unctions,—thy daily purges,—thy nightly glisters, and succedaneums?

——My father was never at a loss what to say to any man, upon any subject; and had the least occasion for the exordium of any man breathing: how he dealt with his lordship's opinion,——you shall see;——but when—I know not:——we must first see what his lordship's opinion was.

C H A P. XXXV.

“ T H E two great causes, which con-
 “ spire with each other to shorten
 “ life, says lord *Verulam*, are first——

“ The internal spirit, which like a gen-
 “ tle flame, wastes the body down to death:
 “ —And secondly, the external air, that
 “ perches the body up to ashes:—which
 “ two enemies attacking us on both sides
 “ of our bodies together, at length destroy
 “ our organs, and render them unfit to
 “ carry on the functions of life.”

This

This being the state of the case ; the road to Longevity was plain ; nothing more being required, says his lordship, but to repair the waste committed by the internal spirit, by making the substance of it more thick and dense, by a regular course of opiates on one side, and by refrigerating the heat of it on the other, by three grains and a half of saltpetre every morning before you got up.—

Still this frame of ours was left exposed to the inimical assaults of the air without ; but this was fenced off again by a course of greasy unctions, which so fully saturated the pores of the skin, that no spicula could enter ;——nor could any one get out.—This put a stop to all perspiration, sensible and insensible, which being the cause of so many scurvy distempers—a course of glisters was requisite to carry off redundant humours,—and render the system complete.

What my father had to say to my lord of *Verulam's* opiates, his saltpetre, and greasy unctions and glisters, you shall read, —but not to-day—or to-morrow: time presses upon me,—my reader is impatient —I must get forwards.——You shall read the chapter at your leisure, (if you chuse it) as soon as ever the *Tristrapædia* is published.——

Sufficeth it at present, to say, my father levelled the hypothesis with the ground, and in doing that, the learned know, he built up and established his own.——

C H A P. XXXVI.

TH E whole secret of health, said my father, beginning the sentence again, depending evidently upon the due contention betwixt the radical heat and radical moisture within us;—the least imaginable skill had been sufficient to have maintained it, had not the schoolmen confounded the
task;

task, merely (as *Van Helmont*, the famous chymist, has proved) by all along mistaking the radical moisture for the tallow and fat of animal bodies.

Now the radical moisture is not the tallow or fat of animals, but an oily and balsamous substance; for the fat and tallow, as also the phlegm or watery parts are cold; whereas the oily and balsamous parts are of a lively heat and spirit, which accounts for the observation of *Aristotle*, “*Quod cumne animal post ccitum est triste.*”

Now it is certain, that the radical heat lives in the radical moisture, but whether *vice versa*, is a doubt: however, when the one decays, the other decays also; and then is produced, either an unnatural heat, which causes an unnatural dryness—or an unnatural moisture, which causes drop-sies.—So that if a child, as he grows up,
can

can but be taught to avoid running into fire or water, as either of 'em threaten his destruction,——'twill be all that is needful to be done upon that head.——

C H A P. XXXVII.

TH E description of the siege of *Jerico* itself, could not have engaged the attention of my uncle *Toby* more powerfully than the last chapter;—his eyes were fixed upon my father, throughout it;—he never mentioned radical heat and radical moisture, but my uncle *Toby* took his pipe out of his mouth, and shook his head; and as soon as the chapter was finished, he beckoned to the corporal to come close to his chair, to ask him the following question,——*aside*.—— * * * * *

* * * * *. It was at the siege of *Limerick*, an' please your honour, replied the corporal, making a bow.

The

The poor fellow and I, quoth my uncle *Toby*, addressing himself to my father, were scarce able to crawl out of our tents, at the time the siege of *Limerick* was raised, upon the very account you mention.—— Now what can have got into that precious noddle of thine, my dear brother *Toby*? cried my father, mentally.—— By Heaven! continued he, communing still with himself, it would puzzle an *Oedipus* to bring it in point.——

I believe, an' please your honour, quoth the corporal, that if it had not been for the quantity of brandy we set fire to every night, and the claret and cinnamon with which I plyed your honour off;—And the geneva, *Trim*, added my uncle *Toby*, which did us more good than all——I verily believe, continued the corporal, we had both, an' please your honour, left our lives in the trenches, and been buried in them too.

—The

—The noblest grave, corporal! cried my uncle *Toby*, his eyes sparkling as he spoke, that a soldier could wish to lie down in — But a pitiful death for him! and please your honour, replied the corporal.

All this was as much *Arabick* to my father, as the rites of the *Colchi* and *Tregludites* had been before to my uncle *Toby*; my father could not determine whether he was to frown or smile.——

My uncle *Toby*, turning to *Yorick*, resumed the case at *Limerick*, more intelligibly than he had begun it,—and so settled the point for my father at once.

C H A P. XXXVIII.

IT was undoubtedly, said my uncle *Toby*, a great happiness for myself and the corporal, that we had all along a burning fever, attended with a most raging thirst, during

during the whole five and twenty days the flux was upon us in the camp ; otherwise what my brother calls the radical moisture, must, as I conceive it, inevitably have got the better.—My father drew in his lungs top-full of air, and looking up, blew it forth again, as slowly as he possibly could.—

——It was heaven's mercy to us, continued my uncle *Toby*, which put it into the corporal's head to maintain that due contention betwixt the radical heat and the radical moisture, by reinforcing the fever, as he did all along, with hot wine and spices ; whereby the corporal kept up (as it were) a continual firing, so that the radical heat stood its ground from the beginning to the end, and was a fair match for the moisture, terrible as it was.—Upon my honour, added my uncle *Toby*, you might have heard the contention within our bodies, brother *Shandy*, twenty toises.—If there was no firing, said *Yorick*.

Well

Well—said my father, with a full aspiration, and pausing a while after the word——Was I a judge, and the laws of the country which made me one permitted it, I would condemn some of the worst malefactors, provided they had had their clergy——
 —————*Yorick* foreseeing the sentence was likely to end with no sort of mercy, laid his hand upon my father's breast, and begged he would respite it for a few minutes, till he asked the corporal a question.—Prithee, *Trim*, said *Yorick*, without staying for my father's leave,—tell us honestly—what is thy opinion concerning this self-same radical heat and radical moisture?

With humble submission to his honour's better judgment, quoth the corporal, making a bow to my uncle *Toby*—Speak thy opinion freely, corporal, said my uncle *Toby*.—The poor fellow is my servant,—

not my slave,—added my uncle *Toby*, turning to my father.——

The corporal put his hat under his left arm, and with his stick hanging upon the wrist of it, by a black thong split into a tassel about the knot, he marched up to the ground where he had performed his catechism ; then touching his under jaw with the thumb and fingers of his right hand before he opened his mouth,——he delivered his notion thus.

C H A P. XXXIX.

JUST as the corporal was humming, to begin—in waddled Dr. *Slop*.——
'Tis not two-pence matter—the corporal shall go on in the next chapter, let who will come in.——

Well, my good doctor, cried my father sportively, for the transitions of his passions

fions

sions were unaccountably sudden,——and what has this whelp of mine to say to the matter?——

Had my father been asking after the amputation of the tail of a puppy-dog—he could not have done it in a more careless air: the system which Dr. *Slop* had laid down, to treat the accident by, no way allowed of such a mode of enquiry.—He sat down.

Pray, Sir, quoth my uncle *Toby*, in a manner which could not go unanswered,—in what condition is the boy?—'Twill end in a *phimosis*, replied Dr. *Slop*.

I am no wiser than I was, quoth my uncle *Toby*,—returning his pipe into his mouth.——Then let the corporal go on, said my father, with his medical lecture.—The corporal made a bow to his old friend, Dr. *Slop*, and then delivered his opinion
con-

concerning radical heat, and radical moisture, in the following words.

CHAP. XL.

THE city of *Limerick*, the siege of which was begun under his majesty king *William* himself, the year after I went into the army—lies, an' please your honours, in the middle of a devilish wet, swampy country.—'Tis quite surrounded, said my uncle *Toby*, with the *Shannon*, and is, by its situation, one of the strongest fortified places in *Ireland*.——

I think this is a new fashion, quoth Dr. *Slop*, of beginning a medical lecture.—

'Tis all true, answered *Trim*.——Then I wish the faculty would follow the cut of it, said *Scrivel*.—'Tis all cut through, an' please your reverence, said the corporal, with drains and bogs; and besides, there was such a quantity of rain fell during the

siege, the whole country was like a puddle,—'twas that, and nothing else, which brought on the flux, and which had like to have killed both his honour and myself; now there was no such thing, after the first ten days, continued the corporal, for a soldier to lie dry in his tent, without cutting a ditch round it, to draw off the water;—nor was that enough, for those who could afford it, as his honour could, without setting fire every night to a pewter dish full of brandy, which took off the damp of the air, and made the inside of the tent as warm as a stove.—

And what conclusion dost thou draw, Corporal *Trim*, cried my father, from all these premises?

I infer, an' please your worship, replied *Trim*, that the radical moisture is nothing in the world but ditch-water ——and that the radical heat, of those who can go to

the expence of it, is burnt brandy—the radical heat and moisture of a private man, an' please your honours, is nothing but ditch-water—and a dram of geneva—and give us but enough of it, with a pipe of tobacco, to give us spirits, and drive away the vapours—we know not what it is to fear death.

I am at a loss, Captain *Shandy*, quoth Doctor *Slop*, to determine in which branch of learning your servant shines most, whether in physiology, or divinity.—*Slop* had not forgot *Trim's* comment upon the sermon.—

It is but an hour ago, replied *Horick*, since the corporal was examined in the latter, and pass'd muster with great honour.—

The radical heat and moisture, quoth Doctor *Slop*, turning to my father, you

must know, is the basis and foundation of our being,—as the root of a tree is the source and principle of its vegetation.—It is inherent in the seeds of all animals, and may be preserved sundry ways, but principally in my opinion by *consubstantials*, *impriments*, and *occidents*.—Now this poor fellow, continued Dr. *Slop*, pointing to the corporal, has had the misfortune to have heard some superficial empiric discourse upon this nice point.—That he has,—said my father.—Very likely, said my uncle.—I'm sure of it—quoth *Norick*.

CHAPTER. XLI.

DOCTOR *Slop* being called out to look at a cataplasm he had ordered, it gave my father an opportunity of going on with another chapter in the *Tripla-pædia*.—Come! cheer up, my lads; I'll shew you land—for when we have tugged

ged through that chapter, the book shall not be opened again this twelvemonth.—
Huzza!—

C H A P. XLII.

—FIVE years with a bib under his chin ;

Four years in travelling from Christ-cross-row to *Malachi* ;

A year and a half in learning to write his own name ;

Seven long years and more *τυπώ*-ing it, at Greek and Latin ;

Four years at his *probations* and his *negations*—the fine statue still lying in the middle of the marble block,—and nothing done, but his tools sharpened to hew it out!—'Tis a piteous delay!—Was not the great *Julius Scaliger* within an ace of

K 3 never

never getting his tools sharpened at all? —Forty-four years old was he before he could manage his Greek ;—and *Peter Damianus*, lord bishop of *Ostia*, as all the world knows, could not so much as read, when he was of man's estate.—And *Baldus* himself, as eminent as he turned out after, entered upon the law so late in life, that every body imagined he intended to be an advocate in the other world: no wonder, when *Eudamidas*, the son of *Archidamas*, heard *Xenocrates* at seventy-five disputing about wisdom, that he asked gravely,—*If the old man be yet disputing and enquiring concerning wisdom,—what time will he have to make use of it?*

Yorick listened to my father with great attention ; there was a seasoning of wisdom unaccountably mixed up with his strangest whims, and he had sometimes such illuminations in the darkest of his eclipses, as almost atoned for them :——be wary, Sir, when you imitate him.

I am

I am convinced, *Yorick*, continued my father, half reading and half discoursing, that there is a north-west passage to the intellectual world; and that the soul of man has shorter ways of going to work, in furnishing itself with knowledge and instruction, than we generally take with it. —But alack! all fields have not a river or a spring running besides them;—every child, *Yorick*! has not a parent to point it out.

—The whole entirely depends, added my father, in a low voice, upon the *auxiliary verbs*, Mr. *Yorick*.

Had *Yorick* trod upon *Virgil's* snake, he could not have looked more surprised.—I am surprised too, cried my father, observing it,—and I reckon it as one of the greatest calamities which ever befell the republic of letters, That those who have been entrusted with the education of our chil-

dren, and whose business it was to open their minds, and stock them early with ideas, in order to set the imagination loose upon them, have made so little use of the auxiliary verbs in doing it, as they have done——So that, except *Raymond Lullius*, and the elder *Pelegriani*, the last of which arrived to such perfection in the use of 'em, with his topics, that, in a few lessons, he could teach a young gentleman to discourse with plausibility upon any subject, *pro* and *con*, and to say and write all that could be spoken or written concerning it, without blotting a word, to the admiration of all who beheld him.—I should be glad, said *Terick*, interrupting my father, to be made to comprehend this matter. You shall, said my father.

The highest stretch of improvement a single word is capable of, is a high metaphor,——for which, in my opinion, the
idea

idea is generally the worse, and not the better ;——but be that as it may,—when the mind has done that, with it—there is an end,—the mind and the idea are at rest,—until a second idea enters ;— and so on.

Now the use of the *Auxiliaries* is, at once to set the soul a going by herself upon the materials as they are brought her ; and by the versability of this great engine, round which they are twisted, to open new tracks of enquiry, and make every idea engender millions.

You excite my curiosity greatly, said *Yorick*.

For my own part, quoth my uncle *Toby*, I have given it up.—The *Danes*, an' please your honour, quoth the corporal, who were on the left at the siege of *Limerick*, were all auxiliaries.—And very good ones,

ones, said my uncle *Toby*.—And your honour rould with them, captains with captains.—Very well, said the corporal.—But the auxiliaries my brother is talking about, answered my uncle *Toby*,—I conceive to be different things.—

—You do? said my father, rising up.

C H A P. XLIII.

MY father took a single turn across the room, then sat down and finished the chapter.

The verbs auxiliary we are concerned in here, continued my father, are *am* ; *was* ; *have* ; *had* ; *do* ; *did* ; *make* ; *made* ; *suffer* ; *shall* ; *should* ; *will* ; *would* ; *can* ; *could* ; *owe* ; *ought* ; *used* ; or *is wont*.—And these varied with tenses, *present*, *past*, *future*, conjugated with the verb *see*,—or with these questions added to them ;—*Is it ? Was it ? Will*

Will it be? Would it be? May it be? Might it be? And these again put negatively, *Is it not? Was it not? Ought it not?*—Or affirmatively,—*It is; It was; It ought to be.* Or chronologically,—*Has it been always? Lately? How long ago?*—Or hypothetically, *If it was; If it was not?* What would follow?—If the *French* should beat the *English*? If the *Sun* go out of the *Zodiac*?

Now, by the right use and application of these, continued my father, in which a child's memory should be exercised, there is no one idea can enter his brain how barren soever, but a magazine of conceptions and conclusions may be drawn forth from it.—Did'st thou ever see a white bear? cried my father, turning his head round to *Trim*, who stood at the back of his chair:—No, an' please your honour, replied the corporal.—But thou could'st discourse

discourse about one, *Trim*, said my father, in case of need?—How is it possible, brother, quoth my unclie *Toby*, if the corporal never saw one?—’Tis the fact, I want, replied my father,—and the possibility of it, is as follows :

A white bear ! Very well. Have I ever seen one ? Might I ever have seen one ? Am I ever to see one ? Ought I ever to have seen one ? Or can I ever see one ?

Would I had seen a white bear ? (for how can I imagine it ?)

If I should see a white bear, what should I say ? If I should never see a white bear, what then ?

If I never have, can, must, or shall see, a white bear alive ; have I ever seen the skin of one ? Did I ever see one painted ?—described ? Have I never dreamed of one ?

Did

Did my father, mother, uncle, aunt, brothers or sisters, ever see a white bear? What would they give? How would they behave? How would the white bear have behaved? Is he Wild? Tame? Terrible? Rough? Smooth?

—Is the white bear worth seeing?—

—Is there no sin in it?—

—Is it better than a black one?

C H A P. XLIV.

—WE'LL not stop two moments, my dear Sir,——only, as we have got through these five volumes *, (do, Sir, sit down upon a set——they are better than nothing) let us just look back upon the country we have pass'd through.——

* In the former editions the sixth volume begun with this chapter.

.—What

—What a wilderness has it been ! and what a mercy that we have not both of us been lost, or devoured by wild beasts in it !

Did you think the world itself, Sir, had contained such a number of Jack Asses ?—How they view'd and review'd us as we passed over the rivulet at the bottom of that little valley !—and when we climbed over that hill, and were just getting out of sight—good God ! what a braying did they all set up together !

—Prithee, shepherd ! who keeps all those Jack Asses ? * * *

—Heaven be their comforter—What ! are they never curried ?—Are they never taken in in winter ?—Bray bray—bray. Bray on,—the world is deeply your debtor ;—louder still—that's nothing ;—in good sooth, you are ill-used :—Was I a Jack Ass, I solemnly declare, I would
bray

bray in G-sol-re-ut from morning, even unto night.

C H A P. XLV.

WHEN my father had danced his white bear backwards and forwards through half a dozen pages, he closed the book for good an' all,—and in a kind of triumph redelivered it into *Trim's* hand, with a nod to lay it upon the 'scrutoire where he found it.—*Tristram*, said he, shall be made to conjugate every word in the dictionary, backwards and forwards the same way ;—every word, *Xorick*, by this means, you see, is converted into a thesis or an hypothesis ;—every thesis and hypothesis have an offspring of propositions ;—and each proposition has its own consequences and conclusions ; every one of which leads the mind on again, into fresh tracks of enquiries and doubtings.—The force of
this

this engine, added my father, is incredible, in opening a child's head.—'Tis enough, brother *Shandy*, cried my uncle *Toby*, to burst it into a thousand splinters.—

I presume, said *Yerick*, smiling,—it must be owing to this,—(for let logicians say what they will, it is not to be accounted for sufficiently from the bare use of the ten predicaments)—That the famous *Vincent Quirino*, amongst the many other astonishing feats of his childhood, of which the Cardinal *Bembo* has given the world so exact a story,—should be able to paste up in the public schools at *Rome*, so early as in the eighth year of his age, no less than four thousand five hundred and sixty different theses, upon the most abstruse points of the most abstruse theology ;—and to defend and maintain them in such sort, as to cramp and dumbfound his opponents.—

What

What is that, cried my father, to what is told us of *Alphensius Tostatus*, who, almost in his nurse's arms, learned all the sciences and liberal arts without being taught any one of them?—What shall we say of the great *Piereskus*?—That's the very man, cried my uncle *Toby*, I once told you of, brother *Shardy*, who walked a matter of five hundred miles, reckoning from *Paris* to *Schevling*, and from *Schevling* back again, merely to see *Stevinus's* flying chariot. — He was a very great man! added my uncle *Toby*; (meaning *Stevinus*)—He was so; brother *Toby*, said my father, (meaning *Piereskus*)—and had multiplied his ideas so fast, and increased his knowledge to such a prodigious stock, that, if we may give credit to an anecdote concerning him, which we cannot withhold here, without shaking the authority of all anecdotes whatever—at seven years of age, his father committed entirely to his care the educa-

tion of his younger brother, a boy of five years old,—with the sole management of all his concerns.—Was the father as wise as the son? quoth my uncle *Toby*:—I should think not, said *Yorick*:—But what are these, continued my father—(breaking out in a kind of enthusiasm)—what are these, to those prodigies of childhood in *Grotius*, *Scioppius*, *Heinsius*, *Politian*, *Pascal*, *Joseph Scaliger*, *Ferdinand de Cordouè*, and others—some of which left off their *substantial forms* at nine years old, or sooner, and went on reasoning without them;—others went through their classics at seven;—wrote tragedies at eight;—*Ferdinand de Cordouè* was so wise at nine—’twas thought the Devil was in him;—and at *Venice* gave such proofs of his knowledge and goodness, that the monks imagined he was *Antichrist*, or nothing.—Others were masters of fourteen languages at ten,—finished the course of their rhetoric,

ric,

ric, poetry, logic, and ethics, at eleven, —put forth their commentaries upon *Scrivius* and *Martianus Capella* at twelve, —and at thirteen received their degrees in philosophy, laws, and divinity: —But you forget the great *Lipsius*, quoth *Yerick*, who composed a work * the day he was born; —They should have wiped it up, said my uncle *Toby*, and said no more about it.

* Nous aurions quelque intérêt, says *Baillet*, de montrer qu'il n'a rien de ridicule s'il étoit véritable, au moins dans le sens énigmatique que *Nicius Erythraeus* a tâché de lui donner. Cet auteur dit que pour comprendre comme *Lipse* a pu composer un ouvrage le premier jour de sa vie, il faut s'imaginer, que ce premier jour n'est pas celui de sa naissance charnelle, mais celui auquel il a commencé d'user de la raison; il veut que ç'ait été à l'âge de *neuf* ans; et il nous veut persuader que ce fut en cet âge, que *Lipse* fit un poëme. —Le tour est ingénieux, &c. &c.

C H A P. XLVI.

WHEN the cataplasm was ready, a scruple of *decorum* had unseasonably rose up in *Susannah's* conscience, about holding the candle, whilst *Slop* tied it on ; *Slop* had not treated *Susannah's* distemper with anodines,—and so a quarrel had ensued betwixt them.

——Oh! oh!——said *Slop*, casting a glance of undue freedom in *Susannah's* face, as she declined the office ;——then, I think I know you, madam——You know me, Sir! cried *Susannah* fastidiously, and with a toss of her head, levelled evidently, not at his profession, but at the doctor himself, ——you know me! cried *Susannah* again. ——Doctor *Slop* clapped his finger and his thumb instantly upon his nostrils ;—*Susannah's* spleen was ready to burst at it ;—'Tis false, said *Susannah*.—Come, come, Mrs. Modesty,

Modesty, said *Slop*, not a little elated with the success of his last thrust,—if you won't hold the candle, and look—you may hold it and shut your eyes:—That's one of your popish shifts, cried *Susannah*:—'Tis better, said *Slop*, with a nod, than no shift at all, young woman;—I defy you, Sir, cried *Susannah*, pulling her shift sleeve below her elbow.

It was almost impossible for two persons to assist each other in a surgical case with a more splenetic cordiality.

Slop snatched up the cataplasm,——*Susannah* snatched up the candle;—A little this way, said *Slop*; *Susannah* looking one way, and rowing another, instantly set fire to *Slop*'s wig, which being somewhat bushy and unctuous withal, was burnt out before it was well kindled——You impudent whore! cried *Slop*,—(for what is passion, but a wild beast)—you impudent

whore, cried *Slop*, getting upright, with the cataplasm in his hand ;——I never was the destruction of any body's nose, said *Susannah*,—which is more than you can say :——Is it ? cried *Slop*, throwing the cataplasm in her face ;——Yes, it is, cried *Susannah*, returning the compliment with what was left in the pan.——

C H A P. XLVII.

DOCTOR *Slop* and *Susannah* filed cross-bills against each other in the parlour ; which done, as the cataplasm had failed, they retired into the kitchen to prepare a fomentation for me ;—and whilst that was doing, my father determined the point as you will read.

C H A P. XLVIII.

YOU see 'tis high time, said my father, addressing himself equally to my uncle *Toby* and *Xerick*, to take this young creature
out

out of these women's hands, and put him into those of a private governor. *Marcus Antoninus* provided fourteen governors all at once to superintend his son *Commodus's* education,—and in six weeks he cashiered five of them ;—I know very well, continued my father, that *Commodus's* mother was in love with a gladiator at the time of her conception, which accounts for a great many of *Commodus's* cruelties when he became emperor ;——but still I am of opinion, that those five whom *Antoninus* dismissed, did *Commodus's* temper, in that short time, more hurt than the other nine were able to rectify all their lives long.

Now as I consider the person who is to be about my son, as the mirror in which he is to view himself from morning to night, and by which he is to adjust his looks, his carriage, and perhaps the inmost sentiments of his heart ;—I would have

one, *Yerick*, if possible, polished at all points, fit for my child to look into.—This is very good sense, quoth my uncle *Toby* to himself.

—There is, continued my father, a certain mien and motion of the body and all its parts, both in acting and speaking, which argues a man *well within*: and I am not at all surprized that *Gregory of Nazianzum*, upon observing the hasty and untoward gestures of *Julian*, should foretel he would one day become an apostate; —or that St. *Ambrose* should turn his *Amanuensis* out of doors, because of an indecent motion of his head, which went backwards and forwards like a flail; —or that *Democritus* should conceive *Protagoras* to be a scholar, from seeing him bind up a faggot, and thrusting, as he did it, the small twigs inwards.—There are a thousand unnoticed openings, continued my

my father, which let a penetrating eye at once into a man's soul; and I maintain it, added he, that a man of sense does not lay down his hat in coming into a room,—or take it up in going out of it, but something escapes, which discovers him.

It is for these reasons," continued my father, that the governor I make choice of shall neither * lisp, or squint, or wink, or talk loud, or look fierce, or foolish; — or bite his lips, or grind his teeth, or speak through his nose, or pick it, or blow it with his fingers.——

He shall neither walk fast,—or slow, or fold his arms,—for that is laziness;—or hang them down,—for that is folly; or hide them in his pocket, for that is nonsense.——

* *Vid. Pellegrina.*

He

He shall neither strike, or pinch, or tickle,—or bite, or cut his nails, or hawk, or spit, or snift, or drum with his feet or fingers in company;——nor (according to *Erasmus*) shall he speak to any one in making water,—nor shall he point to carrion or excrement.——Now this is all nonsense again, quoth my uncle *Toby*, to himself.—

I will have him, continued my father, cheerful, faceté, jovial ; at the same time, prudent, attentive to business, vigilant, acute, argute, inventive, quick in resolving doubts and speculative questions;——he shall be wise and judicious, and learned :——And why not humble, and moderate, and gentle tempered, and good ? said *Yorick* :——And why not, cried my uncle *Toby*, free, and generous, and bountiful, and brave ?——He shall, my dear *Toby*, replied my father, getting up and shaking him by his hand.—Then, brother *Shandy*,
answered

answered my uncle *Toby*, raising himself off the chair, and laying down his pipe to take hold of my father's other hand,—I humbly beg I may recommend poor *Le Fever's* son to you ;——a tear of joy of the first water sparkled in my uncle *Toby's* eye,——and another, the fellow to it, in the corporal's, as the proposition was made ;——you will see why when you read *Le Fever's* story :——fool that I was ! nor can I recollect, (nor perhaps you) without turning back to the place, what it was that hindered me from letting the corporal tell it in his own words ;——but the occasion is lost,—I must tell it now in my own.

C H A P. XLIX.

The Story of L E F E V E R.

IT was some time in the summer of that year in which *Dendermond* was taken by the allies,—which was about seven years before

before my father came into the country,—and about as many, after the time, that my uncle *Toby* and *Trim* had privately decamped from my father's house in town, in order to lay some of the finest sieges to some of the finest fortified cities in *Europe*—when my uncle *Toby* was one evening getting his supper, with *Trim* sitting behind him at a small sideboard,—I say, sitting—for in consideration of the corporal's lame knee (which sometimes gave him exquisite pain)—when my uncle *Toby* dined or supped alone, he would never suffer the corporal to stand; and the poor fellow's veneration for his master was such, that, with a proper artillery, my uncle *Toby* could have taken *Dendermond* itself, with less trouble than he was able to gain this point over him; for many a time when my uncle *Toby* supposed the corporal's leg was at rest, he would look back, and detect him standing behind him with the most dutiful respect:

spect: this bred more little squabbles betwixt them, than all other causes for five and twenty years together.—But this is neither here nor there—why do I mention it?—Ask my pen,—it governs me,—I govern not it.

He was one evening sitting thus at his supper, when the landlord of a little inn in the village came into the parlour with an empty phial in his hand to beg a glass or two of sack; 'Tis for a poor gentleman, —I think, of the army, said the landlord, who has been taken ill at my house four days ago, and has never held up his head since, or had a desire to taste any thing, till just now, that he has a fancy for a glass of sack and a thin toast,——*I think*, says he, taking his hand from his forehead, *it would comfort me.*——

——If I could neither beg, borrow, or buy such a thing,—added the landlord,—
I would

I would almost steal it for the poor gentleman, he is so ill.——I hope in God he will still mend, continued he—we are all of us concerned for him.

Thou art a good-natured soul, I will answer for thee, cried my uncle *Toby*; and thou shalt drink the poor gentleman's health in a glass of sack thyself,—and take a couple of bottles with my service, and tell him he is heartily welcome to them, and to a dozen more if they will do him good.

Though I am persuaded, said my uncle *Toby*, as the landlord shut the door, he is a very compassionate fellow—*Trim*,—yet I cannot help entertaining a high opinion of his guest too; there must be something more than common in him, that in so short a time should win so much upon the affections of his host;——And of his whole family, added the corporal, for they are all concerned for him.——Step after him, said

my uncle *Toby*,—do *Trim*,—and ask if he knows his name.

——I have quite forgot it, truly, said the landlord, coming back into the parlour with the corporal,—but I can ask his son again :—Has he a son with him then? said my uncle *Toby*.—A boy, replied the landlord, of about eleven or twelve years of age ;—but the poor creature has tasted almost as little as his father; he does nothing but mourn and lament for him night and day :——He has not stirred from the bedside these two days.

My uncle *Toby* laid down his knife and fork, and thrust his plate from before him, as the landlord gave him the account; and *Trim*, without being ordered, took away without saying one word, and in a few minutes after brought him his pipe and tobacco.

—Stay

——Stay in the room a little, said my uncle *Toby*.——

Trim !——said my uncle *Toby*, after he lighted his pipe, and smoak'd about a dozen whiffs.——*Trim* came in front of his master and made his bow;——my uncle *Toby* smoak'd on, and said no more.——Corporal ! said my uncle *Toby*——the corporal made his bow.——My uncle *Toby* proceeded no farther, but finished his pipe.

Trim ! said my uncle *Toby*, I have a project in my head, as it is a bad night, of wrapping myself up warm in my roquelaure, and paying a visit to this poor gentleman.——Your honour's roquelaure, replied the corporal, has not once been had on, since the night before your honour received your wound, when we mounted guard in the trenches before the gate of *St Nicholas*;——and besides it is so cold and,
rainy

rainy a night, that what with the roquelaure, and what with the weather, 'twill be enough to give your honour your death, and bring on your honour's torment in your groin. I fear so ; replied my uncle *Toby*, but I am not at rest in my mind, *Trim*, since the account the landlord has given me.—I wish I had not known so much of this affair,—added my uncle *Toby*,—or that I had known more of it :—How shall we manage it ? Leave it, an't please your honour, to me, quoth the corporal ; —I'll take my hat and stick, and go to the house and reconnoitre, and act accordingly ; and I will bring your honour a full account in an hour.—Thou shalt go, *Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*, and here's a shilling for thee to drink with his servant. —I shall get it all out of him, said the corporal, shutting the door.

My uncle *Toby* filled his second pipe ; and had it not been, that he now and then

wandered from the point, with considering whether it was not full as well to have the curtain of the tennaile a straight line, as a crooked one,—he might be said to have thought of nothing else but poor *Le Fever* and his boy the whole time he smoaked it.

CHAP. L.

The Story of LE FEVER continued.

IT was not till my uncle *Toby* had knocked the ashes out of his third pipe, that corporal *Trim* returned from the inn, and gave him the following account.

I despaired at first, said the corporal, of being able to bring back your honour any kind of intelligence concerning the poor sick lieutenant—Is he in the army then? said my uncle *Toby*——He is; said the corporal——And in what regiment? said my uncle *Toby*——I'll tell your honour, replied

plied the corporal, every thing straight forwards, as I learnt it.—Then *Trim*, I'll fill another pipe, said my uncle *Toby*, and not interrupt thee till thou hast done; so sit down at thy ease, *Trim*, in the window seat, and begin thy story again. The corporal made his old bow, which generally spoke as plain as a bow could speak it—*Your honour is good*.—And having done that, he sat down, as he was ordered,—and begun the story to my uncle *Toby* over again in pretty near the same words.

I despaired at first, said the corporal, of being able to bring back any intelligence to your honour about the lieutenant and his son; for when I asked where his servant was, from whom I made myself sure of knowing every thing which was proper to be asked,—That's a right distinction, *Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*—I was answered, an' please your honour, that he had no

servant with him ;——that he had come to the inn with hired horses, which, upon finding himself unable to proceed, (to join, I suppose, the regiment) he had dismissed the morning after he came.—If I get better, my dear, said he, as he gave his purse to his son to pay the man,——we can hire horses from hence.——But alas ! the poor gentleman will never get from hence, said the landlady to me,—for I heard the death-watch all night long ;——and when he dies, the youth, his son, will certainly die with him ; for he is broken-hearted already.

I was hearing this account, continued the corporal, when the youth came into the kitchen, to order the thin toast the landlord spoke of ;——but I will do it for my father myself, said the youth.——Pray let me save you the trouble, young gentleman, said I, taking up a fork for the purpose,

pose, and offering him my chair to sit down upon by the fire, whilst I did it.—I believe, Sir, said he, very modestly, I can please him best myself.—I am sure, said I, his honour will not like the toast the worse for being toasted by an old soldier.—The youth took hold of my hand, and instantly burst into tears.—Poor youth ! said my uncle *Toby*,—he has been bred up from an infant in the army, and the name of a soldier, *Trim*, sounded in his ears like the name of a friend ;—I wish I had him here.

——I never in the longest march, said the corporal, had so great a mind to my dinner, as I had to cry with him for company :—What could be the matter with me, an' please your honour ? Nothing in the world, *Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*, blowing his nose,—but that thou art a good-natured fellow.

When I gave him the toast, continued the corporal, I thought it was proper to tell him I was Captain *Shandy's* servant, and that your honour (though a stranger) was extremely concerned for his father ;—and that if there was any thing in your house or cellar——(And thou might'st have added my purse too, said my uncle *Toby*)——he was heartily welcome to it :——He made a very low bow, (which was meant to your honour) but no answer,—for his heart was full—so he went up stairs with the toast ;—I warrant you, my dear, said I, as I opened the kitchen door, your father will be well again.——Mr. *Yorick's* curate was smoaking a pipe by the kitchen fire,—but said not a word good or bad to comfort the youth.——I thought it wrong ; added the corporal——I think so too, said my uncle *Toby*.

When the lieutenant had taken his glass of sack and toast, he felt himself a little revived,

revived, and sent down into the kitchen, to let me know, that in about ten minutes he should be glad if I would step up stairs.——I believe, said the landlord, he is going to say his prayers,——for there was a book laid upon the chair by his bedside, and as I shut the door, I saw his son take up a cushion.——

I thought, said the curate, that you gentlemen of the army, Mr. *Trim*, never said your prayers at all.—I heard the poor gentleman say his prayers last night, said the landlady, very devoutly, and with my own ears, or I could not have believed it.—Are you sure of it? replied the curate.—A soldier, an' please your reverence, said I, prays as often (of his own accord) as a parson;—and when he is fighting for his king, and for his own life, and for his honour too, he has the most reason to pray to God of any one in the whole

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world.

world.—'Twas well said of thee, *Trim*;
 said my uncle *Toby*.—But when a soldier,
 said I, an' please your reverence, has been
 standing for twelve hours together in the
 trenches, up to his knees in cold water,—
 or engaged, said I, for months together in
 long and dangerous marches;—harassed,
 perhaps, in his rear to-day;—harassing
 others to-morrow;—detached here;—
 countermanded there;—resting this night
 out upon his arms;—beat up in his shirt
 the next;—benumbed in his joints;—per-
 haps without straw in his tent to kneel on;
 —must say his prayers *how* and *when* he
 can.—I believe, said I,—for I was piqued,
 quoth the corporal, for the reputation of
 the army,—I believe, an't please your re-
 verence, said I, that when a soldier gets
 time to pray,—he prays as heartily as a
 parson,—though not with all his fuss and
 hypocrisy.—Thou should'st not have said
 that, *Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*,—for God
 only

only knows who is a hypocrite, and who is not:—At the great and general review of us all, corporal, at the day of judgment, (and not till then)—it will be seen who has done their duties in this world,—and who has not; and we shall be advanced, *Trim*, accordingly.—I hope we shall, said *Trim*.—It is in the Scripture, said my uncle *Toby*; and I will shew it thee to-morrow:—In the mean time we may depend upon it, *Trim*, for our comfort, said my uncle *Toby*, that God Almighty is so good and just a governor of the world, that if we have but done our duties in it,—it will never be enquired into, whether we have done them in a red coat or a black one:—I hope not; said the corporal.—But go on, *Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*, with thy story.

When I went up, continued the corporal, into the lieutenant's room, which I
 did

did not do till the expiration of the ten minutes,——he was lying in his bed with his head raised upon his hand, with his elbow upon the pillow, and a clean white cambrick handkerchief beside it :——The youth was just stooping down to take up the cushion, upon which I supposed he had been kneeling,——the book was laid upon the bed,——and as he rose, in taking up the cushion with one hand, he reached out his other to take it away at the same time. ——Let it remain there, my dear, said the lieutenant.

He did not offer to speak to me, till I had walked up close to his bed-side :—If you are Captain *Shandy's* servant, said he, you must present my thanks to your master, with my little boy's thanks along with them, for his courtesy to me ;—if he was of *Levens's*—said the lieutenant.——I told him your honour was—Then, said he, I served

served three campaigns with him in *Flanders*, and remember him——but 'tis most likely, as I had not the honour of any acquaintance with him, that he knows nothing of me.——You will tell him, however, that the person his good-nature has laid under obligations to him, is one *Le Fever*, a lieutenant in *Angus's*——but he knows me not,—said he, a second time, musing;——possibly he may my story——added he—pray tell the captain, I was the ensign at *Breda*, whose wife was most unfortunately killed with a musket shot, as she lay in my arms in my tent.—I remember the story, an't please your honour, said I, very well.——Do you so? said he, wiping his eyes with his handkerchief,—then well may I.—In saying this, he drew a little ring out of his bosom, which seemed tied with a black ribband about his neck, and kiss'd it twice—Here, *Billy*, said he, —the boy flew across the room to the bedside,

side,—and falling down upon his knee, took the ring in his hand, and kissed it too,—then kissed his father, and sat down upon the bed and wept.

I wish, said my uncle *Toby*, with a deep sigh,—I wish, *Trim*, I was asleep.

Your honour, replied the corporal, is too much concerned ;——shall I pour your honour out a glass of sack to your pipe ?—Do, *Trim*, said my uncle *Toby*.

I remember, said my uncle *Toby*, sighing again, the story of the ensign and his wife, with a circumstance his modesty omitted ;—and particularly well that he, as well as she, upon some account or other, (I forgot what) was universally pitied by the whole regiment ;—but finish the story thou art upon :—'Tis finished already, said the corporal,—for I could stay no longer,—so wished his honour a good night ; young

Le

Le Fever rose from off the bed, and saw me to the bottom of the stairs; and as we went down together, told me, they had come from *Ireland*, and were on their route to join the regiment in *Flanders* —— But alas! said the corporal, —— the lieutenant's last day's march is over. —— Then what is to become of his poor boy? cried my uncle *Toby*.

C H A P. LI.

The Story of LE FEVER continued.

IT was to my uncle *Toby*'s eternal honour, —— though I tell it only for the sake of those, who, when coop'd in betwixt a natural and a positive law, know not for their souls, which way in the world to turn themselves —— That notwithstanding my uncle *Toby* was warmly engaged at that time in carrying on the siege of *Dendermond*, parallel with the allies, who pressed
theirs

theirs on so vigorously, that they scarce allowed him time to get his dinner——that nevertheless he gave up *Dendermond*, though he had already made a lodgment upon the counterescarp;—and bent his whole thoughts towards the private distresses at the inn; and, except that he ordered the garden-gate to be bolted up, by which he might be said to have turned the siege of *Dendermond* into a blockade,—he left *Dendermond* to itself,——to be relieved or not by the *French* king, as the *French* king thought good; and only considered how he himself should relieve the poor lieutenant and his son.

——That kind BEING, who is a friend to the friendless, shall recompence thee for this.

Thou hast left this matter short, said my uncle *Toby* to the corporal, as he was putting him to bed,—and I will tell thee in

what, *Trim*.——In the first place, when thou madest an offer of my services to *Le Fever*,——as sickness and travelling are both expensive, and thou knowest he was but a poor lieutenant, with a son to subsist as well as himself, out of his pay,——that thou didst not make an offer to him of my purse; because, had he stood in need, thou knowest, *Trim*, he had been as welcome to it as myself.——Your honour knows, said the corporal, I had no orders;——True, quoth my uncle *Toby*,——thou didst very right, *Trim*, as a soldier,——but certainly very wrong as a man.

In the second place, for which, indeed, thou hast the same excuse, continued my uncle *Toby*,——when thou offeredst him whatever was in my house,——thou shouldst have offered him my house too:——A sick brother officer should have the best quarters, *Trim*, and if we had him with us,——
we

we could tend and look to him:—Thou art an excellent nurse thyself, *Trim*,—and what with thy care of him, and the old woman's, and his boy's, and mine together, we might recruit him again at once, and set him upon his legs.——

——In a fortnight or three weeks, added my uncle *Toby*, smiling,—he might march.—He will never march, an' please your honour, in this world, said the corporal:——He will march; said my uncle *Toby*, rising up from the side of the bed, with one shoe off:——An' please your honour, said the corporal, he will never march, but to his grave:——He shall march, cried my uncle *Toby*, marching the foot which had a shoe on, though without advancing an inch,—he shall march to his regiment.——He cannot stand it, said the corporal,—He shall be supported, said my uncle *Toby*;——He'll drop at last, said the

the corporal, and what will become of his boy?—He shall not drop, said my uncle *Toby*, firmly.—A-well-o'day,—do what we can for him, said *Trim*, maintaining his point,—the poor soul will die:—He shall not die, by G—, cried my uncle *Toby*.

—The ACCUSING SPIRIT which flew up to heaven's chancery with the oath, blush'd as he gave it in—and the RECORDING ANGEL as he wrote it down, dropp'd a tear upon the word, and blotted it out for ever.

C H A P. LII.

—MY uncle *Toby* went to his bureau,—put his purse into his breeches pocket, and having ordered the corporal to go early in the morning for a physician,—he went to bed, and fell asleep.

C H A P. LIII.

The Story of LE FEVER concluded.

THE sun looked bright the morning after, to every eye in the village but *Le Fever's* and his afflicted son's ; the hand of death press'd heavy upon his eye-lids,—and hardly could the wheel at the cistern turn round its circle,—when my uncle *Toby*, who had rose up an hour before his wonted time, entered the lieutenant's room, and without preface or apology, sat himself down upon the chair by the bedside, and independantly of all modes and customs, opened the curtain in the manner an old friend and brother officer would have done it, and asked him how he did, —how he had rested in the night, —what was his complaint, —where was his pain, —and what he could do to help him : —and without giving him time to answer

answer any one of the enquiries, went on and told him of the little plan which he had been concerting with the corporal the night before for him.—

—You shall go home directly, *Le Fever*, said my uncle *Toby*, to my house,—and we'll send for a doctor to see what's the matter,—and we'll have an apothecary,—and the corporal shall be your nurse;—and I'll be your servant, *Le Fever*.

There was a frankness in my uncle *Toby*,—not the *effect* of familiarity,—but the *cause* of it,—which let you at once into his soul, and shewed you the goodness of his nature; to this, there was something in his looks, and voice, and manner, super-added, which eternally beckoned to the unfortunate to come and take shelter under him; so that before my uncle *Toby* had half finished the kind offers he was making to the father, had the son insensibly pressed

up close to his knees, and had taken hold of the breast of his coat, and was pulling it towards him.——The blood and spirits of *Le Fever*, which were waxing cold and slow within him, and were retreating to their last citadel, the heart,——rallied back, the film forsook his eyes for a moment,——he looked up wishfully in my uncle *Toby's* face,——then cast a look upon his boy,——and that *ligament*, fine as it was,——was never broken,——

Nature instantly ebb'd again,——the film returned to its place, ——the pulse fluttered——stopp'd——went on——throb'd——stopp'd again.——moved——stopp'd——shall I go on?——No.

C H A P. LIV.

I Am so impatient to return to my own story, that what remains of young *Le Fever's*, that is, from this turn of his fortune,

tune,

ment or stricture upon the sermon itself, seldom indeed, much to its credit :—For instance, *This sermon upon the jewish dissension*—I don't like it at all ;—Though I own there is a world of WATER-LANDISH knowledge in it,—but 'tis all tritica, and most tritically put together.—This is but a flimsy kind of composition ; what was in my head when I made it ?

——N. B. The excellency of this text is, that it will suit any sermon,—and of this sermon,—that it will suit any text.——

——For this sermon I shall be hanged,—for I have stolen the greatest part of it. Doctor Paidagunes found me out. ☞ Set a thief to catch a thief.——

On the back of half a dozen I find written, *So, so, and no more*—and upon a couple *Moderato* ; by which, as far as one may gather from *Altieri's Italian Dictionary*,
ary,

ary,—but mostly from the authority of a piece of green whipcord, which seemed to have been the unravelling of *Yorick's* whip-lash, with which he has left us the two sermons marked *Moderato*, and the half dozen of *So, so*, tied fast together in one bundle by themselves,—one may safely suppose he meant pretty near the same thing.

There is but one difficulty in the way of this conjecture, which is this, that the *moderato's* are five times better than the *so, so's*;—shew ten times more knowledge of the human heart;—have seventy times more wit and spirit in them;—(and, to rise properly in my climax)—discover a thousand times more genius;—and to crown all, are infinitely more entertaining than those tied up with them;—for which reason, whene'er *Yorick's dramatick* sermons are offered to the world, though I shall

admit but one out of the whole number of the *so*, *so's*, I shall, nevertheless, adventure to print the two *moderate's* without any sort of scruple.

What *Yorick* could mean by the words *lentamente*,—*tenute*,—*grave*,——and sometimes *adagio*,—as applied to theological compositions, and with which he has characterized some of these sermons, I dare not venture to guess.—I am more puzzled still upon finding *a l'ottava alta* ! upon one ;——*Con strepito* upon the back of another ;——*Scicilliana* upon a third ;——*Alla capella* upon a fourth ;——*Con l'arco* upon this ;——*Senza l'arco* upon that.—All I know is, that they are musical terms, and have a meaning ;——and as he was a musical man, I will make no doubt, but that by some quaint application of such metaphors to the compositions in hand, they impressed very distinct ideas of their several characters

characters upon his fancy,—whatever they may do upon that of others.

Amongst these, there is that particular sermon which has unaccountably led me into this digression——The funeral sermon upon poor *Le Fever*, wrote out very fairly, as if from a hasty copy.—I take notice of it the more, because it seems to have been his favourite composition——It is upon mortality; and is tied length-ways and cross-ways with a yarn thrum, and then rolled up and twisted round with a half sheet of dirty blue paper, which seems to have been once the cast cover of a general review, which to this day smells horribly of horse-drugs.——Whether these marks of humiliation were designed,—I something doubt;——because at the end of the sermon, (and not at the beginning of it)—very different from his way of treating the rest, he had wrote——

Bravo !

——Though not very offensively,——
for it is at two inches, at least, and a half's
distance from, and below the concluding
line of the sermon, at the very extremity
of the page, and in that right-hand corner
of it, which, you know, is generally co-
vered with your thumb ; and, to do it
justice, it is wrote besides with a crow's
quill so faintly in a small *Italian* hand, as
scarce to solicit the eye towards the place,
whether your thumb is there or not,—so
that from the *manner of it*, it stands half
excused ; and being wrote moreover with
very pale ink, diluted almost to nothing,
——'tis more like a *ritratto* of the shadow
of vanity, than of VANITY herself——of
the two ; resembling rather a faint thought
of transient applause, secretly stirring up in
the heart of the composer, than a gross
mark of it, coarsely obtruded upon the
world.

With

With all these extenuations, I am aware, that in publishing this, I do no service to *Yorick's* character as a modest man;—but all men have their failings! and what lessens this still farther, and almost wipes it away, is this; that the word was struck through sometime afterwards (as appears from a different tint of the ink) with a line quite across it in this manner, ~~BRAVE~~—as if he had retracted, or was ashamed of the opinion he had once entertained of it.

These short characters of his sermons were always written, excepting in this one instance, upon the first leaf of his sermon, which served as a cover to it; and usually upon the inside of it, which was turned towards the text;—but at the end of his discourse, where, perhaps, he had five or six pages, and sometimes, perhaps, a whole score to turn himself in,—he took a larger circuit, and, indeed, a much more mettlesome

ple some one ;—as if he had snatched the occasion of unlacing himself with a few more frolicksome strokes at vice, than the straightness of the pulpit allowed.—These, though hussar-like, they skirmish lightly and out of all order, are still auxiliaries on the side of virtue—; tell me then, Mynheer VanderBlonderdondergewdenstronke, why they should not be printed together ?

C H A P. LV.

WHEN my uncle *Toby* had turned every thing into money, and settled all accounts betwixt the agent of the regiment and *Le Fever*, and betwixt *Le Fever* and all mankind,——there remained nothing more in my uncle *Toby*'s hands, than an old regimental coat and a sword; so that my uncle *Toby* found little or no opposition from the world in taking administration. The coat my uncle *Toby* gave the corporal ;——Wear it, *Trim*, said my
uncle

uncle *Toby*, as long as it will hold together, for the sake of the poor lieutenant——
 And this,——said my uncle *Toby*, taking up the sword in his hand, and drawing it out of the scabbard as he spoke——and this, *Le Fever*, I'll save for thee,—'tis all the fortune, continued my uncle *Toby*, hanging it up upon a crook, and pointing to it,—'tis all the fortune, my dear *Le Fever*, which God has left thee; but if he has given thee a heart to fight thy way with it in the world,—and thou doest it like a man of honour,——'tis enough for us.

As soon as my uncle *Toby* had laid a foundation, and taught him to inscribe a regular polygon in a circle, he sent him to a public school, where, excepting *Whitsontide* and *Christmas*, at which times the corporal was punctually dispatched for him,—he remained to the spring of the year, seventeen; when the stories of the emperor's

ror's sending his army into *Hungary* against the *Turks*, kindling a spark of fire in his bosom, he left his *Greek* and *Latin* without leave, and throwing himself upon his knees before my uncle *Toby*, begged his father's sword, and my uncle *Toby's* leave along with it, to go and try his fortune under *Eugene*.—Twice did my uncle *Toby* forget his wound, and cry out, *Le Fever!* I will go with thee, and thou shalt fight beside me——And twice he laid his hand upon his groin, and hung down his head in sorrow and disconsolation.——

My uncle *Toby* took down the sword from the crook, where it had hung untouched ever since the lieutenant's death, and delivered it to the corporal to brighten up;——and having detained *Le Fever* a single fortnight to equip him, and contract for his passage to *Leghorn*,—he put the sword into his hand,——If thou art brave,
Le

Le Fever, said my uncle *Toby*, this will not fail thee,——but Fortune, said he, (musing a little)——Fortune may——And if she does,——added my uncle *Toby*, embracing him, come back again to me, *Le Fever*, and we will shape thee another course.

The greatest injury could not have oppressed the heart of *Le Fever* more than my uncle *Toby*'s paternal kindness ;——he parted from my uncle *Toby*, as the best of sons from the best of fathers——both dropped tears——and as my uncle *Toby* gave him his last kiss, he slipped sixty guineas, tied up in an old purse of his father's, in which was his mother's ring, into his hand,—and bid God bless him.

C H A P. LVI.

LE FEVER got up to the Imperial army just time enough to try what metal his sword was made of, at the defeat of the *Turks* before *Belgrade*; but a series of unmerited mischances had pursued him from that moment, and trod close upon his heels for four years together after: he had withstood these buffetings to the last, till sickness overtook him at *Marseilles*, from whence he wrote my uncle *Toby* word, he had lost his time, his services, his health, and in short, every thing but his sword;—and was waiting for the first ship to return back to him.

As this letter came to hand about six weeks before *Susannah's* accident, *Le Fever* was hourly expected; and was uppermost in my uncle *Toby's* mind all the time my father was giving him and *Xerick* a description

tion

tion of what kind of a person he would chuse for a preceptor to me : but as my uncle *Toby* thought my father at first somewhat fanciful in the accomplishments he required, he forbore mentioning *Le Fever's* name,——till the character, by *Yerick's* interposition, ending unexpectedly, in one, who should be gentle tempered, and generous, and good, it impressed the image of *Le Fever*, and his interest upon my uncle *Toby* so forceably, he rose instantly off his chair ; and laying down his pipe, in order to take hold of both my father's hands——I beg, brother *Shandy*, said my uncle *Toby*, I may recommend poor *Le Fever's* son to you——I beseech you, do, added *Yerick*——He has a good heart, said my uncle *Toby*——And a brave one too, an' please your honour, said the corporal.

——The best hearts, *Trim*, are ever the bravest, replied my uncle *Toby*.——

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And the greatest cowards, an' please your honour, in our regiment, were the greatest rascals in it.—There was serjeant *Kum-lur*, and ensign—

—We'll talk of them, said my father, another time.

C H A P. LVII.

WHAT a jovial and a merry world would this be, may it please your worships, but for that inextricable labyrinth of debts, cares, woes, want, grief, discontent, melancholy, large jointures, impositions, and lies!

Doctor *Slep*, like a son of a w——, as my father called him for it,——to exalt himself,—debased me to death,—and made ten thousand times more of *Susannah's* accident, than there was any grounds for; so that in a week's time, or less, it was in

every body's mouth, *That poor Master Shandy* * * * * *

* * * entirely.—And FAME, who loves to double every thing,—in three days more, had sworn positively she saw it,—and all the world, as usual, gave credit to her evidence—“ That the nursery window had not only * * * * *
 * * * * *
 * * * * *;—but that * * * * *
 * * * * *’s also.”

Could the world have been sued like a BODY CORPORATE,—my father had brought an action upon the case, and trounced it sufficiently; but to fall foul of individuals about it—as every soul who had mentioned the affair, did it with the greatest pity imaginable;—’twas like flying in the very face of his best friends:—And yet to acquiesce under the report, in silence—was to acknowledge it openly,—at least

in the opinion of one half of the world ;
and to make a bustle again, in contradict-
ing it,—was to confirm it as strongly in the
opinion of the other half.——

——Was ever poor devil of a country
gentleman so hampered ? said my father.

I would shew him publicly, said my un-
cle *Toby*, at the market cross.

——'Twill have no effect, said my fa-
ther.

C H A P. LVIII.

—I'll put him, however, into breeches,
said my father,—let the world say what it
will.

C H A P. LIX.

TH E R E are a thousand resolutions,
Sir, both in church and state, as well
as in matters, Madam, of a more private
concern ;

concern;—which, though they have carried all the appearance in the world of being taken, and entered upon in a hasty, hare-brained, and unadvised manner, were, notwithstanding this, (and could you or I have got into the cabinet, or stood behind the curtain, we should have found it was so) been weighed, poized, and perpended——argued upon——canvassed through——entered into, and examined on all sides with so much coolness, that the GODDESS of COOLNESS herself (I do not take upon me to prove her existence) could neither have wished it, or done it better.

Of the number of these was my father's resolution of putting me into breeches; which, though determined at once,—in a kind of huff, and a defiance of all mankind, had, nevertheless, been *pro'd* and *con'd*, and judicially talked over betwixt him and my mother about a month before in two

several *beds of justice*, which my father had held for that purpose. I shall explain the nature of these beds of justice in my next chapter ; and in the chapter following that, you shall step with me, Madam, behind the curtain, only to hear in what kind of manner my father and my mother debated between themselves, this affair of the breeches,—from which you may form an idea, how they debated all lesser matters.

C H A P. LX.

THE ancient *Goths* of Germany, who (the learned *Cluverius* is positive) were first seated in the country between the *Vistula* and the *Oder*, and who afterwards incorporated the *Herculi*, the *Bugians*, and some other *Vandallick* clans to 'em,—had all of them a wise custom of debating every thing of importance to their state, twice ; that is,—once drunk, and once sober :

sober :——Drunk——that their counsels might not want vigour ;——and sober——that they might not want discretion.

Now my father being entirely a water-drinker,—was a long time gravelled almost to death, in turning this as much to his advantage, as he did every other thing, which the ancients did or said ; and it was not till the seventh year of his marriage, after a thousand fruitless experiments and devices, that he hit upon an expedient which answered the purpose ;——and that was when any difficult and momentous point was to be settled in the family, which required great sobriety, and great spirit too, in its determination,——he fixed and set apart the first *Sunday* night in the month, and the *Saturday* night which immediately preceded it, to argue it over, in bed with my mother : By which contrivance, if you consider, Sir, with yourself, * * * *



These my father, humourously enough, called his *beds of justice*; ——— for from the two different counsels taken in these two different humours, a middle one was generally found out, which touched the point of wisdom as well, as if he had got drunk and sober a hundred times.

It must not be made a secret of to the world, that this answers full as well in literary discussions, as either in military or conjugal; but it is not every author that can try the experiment as the *Goths* and *Vandals* did it——or if he can, may it be always for his body's health; and to do it, as my father did it,—am I sure it would be always for his soul's.

My way is this:——

In all nice and ticklish discussions,—(of which, heaven knows, there are but too many in my book)—where I find I cannot take a step without the danger of having either their worships or their reverences upon my back——I write one half *full*,—and t'other *fasting*;——or write it all full,——and correct it fasting;——or write it fasting,——and correct it full, for they all come to the same thing:——So that with a less variation from my father's plan, than my father's from the *Getbick*——I feel myself upon a par with him in his first bed of justice,——and no way inferior to him in his second.——These different and almost irreconcilable effects, flow uniformly from the wise and wonderful mechanism of nature, of which—be her's the honour.——All that we can do, is to turn and work the machine to the improvement and better manufactory of the arts and sciences.——

Now,

Now, when I write full,—I write as if I was never to write fasting again as long as I live ;——that is, I write free from the cares, as well as the terrors of the world.——I count not the number of my scars,—nor does my fancy go forth into dark entries and bye-corners to antedate my stabs.——In a word, my pen takes its course ; and I write on as much from the fulness of my heart, as my stomach.——

But when, an' please your honours, I indite fasting, 'tis a different history.——I pay the world all possible attention and respect,—and have as great a share (whilst it lasts) of that understrapping virtue of discretion, as the best of you.——So that betwixt both, I write a careless kind of a civil, nonsensical, good-humoured *Shandean* book, which will do all your hearts good.——

——And all your heads too,—provided you understand it.

C H A P. LXI.

WE should begin, said my father, turning himself half round in bed, and shifting his pillow a little towards my mother's, as he opened the debate——We should begin to think, Mrs. *Shandy*, of putting this boy into breeches.——

We should so,—said my mother.——
We defer it, my dear, quoth my father, shamefully.——

I think we do, Mr. *Shandy*,—said my mother.

——Not but the child looks extremely well, said my father, in his vests and tunicks.——

——He does look very well in them—
replied my mother.——

——And

——And for that reason it would be almost a sin, added my father, to take him out of 'em.——

——It would so,—said my mother :——
But indeed he is growing a very tall lad,—
rejoin'd my father.

——He is very tall for his age, indeed,
—said my mother.——

——I can not (making two syllables of it) imagine, quoth my father, who the deuce he takes after. ——

I cannot conceive, for my life,—said my mother.——

Humph !——said my father.

(The dialogue ceased for a moment.)

——I am very short myself,—continued my father, gravely.

You

You are very short, Mr. *Shandy*,——said my mother.

Humph ! quoth my father to himself, a second time : in muttering which, he plucked his pillow a little further from my mother's, and turning about again, there was an end of the debate for three minutes and a half.

——When he gets these breeches made, cried my father in a higher tone, he'll look like a beast in 'em.

He will be very awkward in them at first, replied my mother.

——And 'twill be lucky, if that's the worst on't, added my father.

It will be very lucky, answered my mother.

I sup-

I suppose, replied my father,—making some pause first, he'll be exactly like other people's children.——

Exactly, said my mother.——

——Though I should be sorry for that, added my father : and so the debate stopped again.

——They should be of leather, said my father, turning him about again.——

They will last him, said my mother, the longest.

But he can have no linings to 'em, replied my father.——

He cannot, said my mother.

'Twere better to have them of fustian, quoth my father.

Nothing

Nothing can be better, quoth my mother.——

——Except dimity,—replied my father:
——’Tis best of all,—replied my mother.

——One must not give him his death, however,—interrupted my father.

By no means, said my mother:——and so the dialogue stood still again.

I am resolved, however, quoth my father, breaking silence the fourth time, he shall have no pockets in them.——

——There is no occasion for any, said my mother.——

I mean in his coat and waistcoat,—cried my father.

——I mean so too,—replied my mother.

——Though

——Though if he gets a gig or a top—
 Poor souls ! it is a crown and a scepter to
 them,——they should have where to secure
 it.——

Order it as you please, Mr. *Shandy*, re-
 plied my mother.——

——But don't you think it right ? added
 my father, pressing the point home to her.

Perfectly, said my mother, if it pleases
 you, Mr. *Shandy*.——

——There's for you ! cried my father,
 losing temper——Pleases me !——You ne-
 ver will distinguish, Mrs. *Shandy*, nor shall
 I ever teach you to do it, betwixt a point
 of pleasure and a point of convenience.——
 This was on the *Sunday* night ;——and fur-
 ther this chapter sayeth not.

C H A P. LXII.

AFTER my father had debated the affair of the breeches with my mother,—he consulted *Albertus Rubenius* upon it; and *Albertus Rubenius* used my father ten times worse in the consultation (if possible) than even my father had used my mother: For 'as *Rubenius* had wrote a quarto express, *De re Vestiaria Veterum*,—it was *Rubenius's* business to have given my father some lights.—On the contrary, my father might as well have thought of extracting the seven cardinal virtues out of a long beard, as of extracting a single word out of *Rubenius* upon the subject.

Upon every other article of ancient dress, *Rubenius* was very communicative to my father;—gave him a full and satisfactory account of

The Toga, or loose gown.

The Chlamys.

The Ephod.

The Tunica, or Jacket.

The Synthesis.

The Pænula.

The Lacema, with its Cucullus.

The Paludamentum.

The Prætexta.

The Sagum, or soldier's jerkin.

The Trabea: of which, according to *Suetonius*, there were three kinds.—

——But what are all these to the breeches? said my father.

Rubenius threw him down upon the counter all kinds of shoes which had been in fashion with the *Romans*.——There was,

The open shoe.

The close shoe.

The

The slip shoe.

The wooden shoe.

The soc.

The buskin.

And The military shoe with hob-nails in it, which *Juvenal* takes notice of.

There were, The clogs.

The patins.

The pantoufles.

The brogues.

The sandals, with latchets to them.

There was, The felt shoe.

The linen shoe.

The laced shoe.

The braided shoe.

The calceus incisus.

And The calceus rostratus.

Rubenius shewed my father how well they all fitted,——in what manner they laced on,——with what points, straps, thongs, latchets, ribands, jaggs, and ends.——

——But I want to be informed about the breeches, said my father.

Albertus Rubenius informed my father that the *Romans* manufactured stuffs of various fabricks,—some plain,—some striped,—others diapered throughout the whole contexture of the wool, with silk and gold —That linen did not begin to be in common use, till towards the declension of the empire, when the *Egyptians* coming to settle amongst them, brought it into vogue.

——That persons of quality and fortune distinguished themselves by the fineness and whiteness of their clothes ; which colour (next to purple, which was appropriated to the great offices) they most affected and wore on their birth-days and public rejoicings.—That it appeared from the best historians of those times, that they frequently sent their clothes to the fuller, to be cleaned and whitened ;——but that
the

the inferior people, to avoid that expence, generally wore brown clothes, and of a something coarser texture,—till towards the beginning of *Augustus's* reign, when the slave dressed like his master, and almost every distinction of habiliment was lost, but the *Latus Clavus*.

And what was the *Latus Clavus*? said my father.

Rubenius told him, that the point was still litigating amongst the learned :—That *Egnatius*, *Sigonius*, *Bossius Ticinensis*, *Baysius*, *Budæus*, *Salmasius*, *Lipsius*, *Lazius*, *Isaac Causabon*, and *Joseph Scaliger*, all differed from each other,—and he from them : That some took it to be the button,—some the coat itself,—others only the colour of it :—That the great *Baysius*, in his *Wardrobe of the ancients*, chap. 12. —honestly said, he knew not what it

was,—whether a tibia,—a stud,—a button,—a loop,—a buckle,—or clasps and keepers.——

——My father lost the horse, but not the saddle——They are *hooks and eyes*, said my father——and with hooks and eyes he ordered my breeches to be made.

C H A P. LXIII.

WE are now going to enter upon a new scene of events.——

——Leave we then the breeches in the tailor's hands, with my father standing over him with his cane, reading him as he sat at work a lecture upon the *latus clavus*, and pointing to the precise part of the waistband, where he was determined to have it sewed on.——

Leave we my mother—(truest of all the *Poco-curante's* of her sex!)—careless about
it,

it, as about every thing else in the world which concerned her ;— that is,—indifferent whether it was done this way or that, —provided it was but done at all.——

Leave we *Slop* likewise to the full profits of all my dishonours.——

Leave we poor *Le Fever* to recover, and get home from *Marseilles* as he can.—— And last of all,—because the hardest of all——

Let us leave, if possible, *myself*:——But 'tis impossible,—I must go along with you to the end of the work.

C H A P. LXIV.

IF the reader has not a clear conception of the rood and a half of ground which lay at the bottom of my uncle *Toby's* kitchen garden, and which was the scene of so many of his delicious hours,—the fault is

not in me,—but in his imagination ;—for I am sure I gave him so minute a description, I was almost ashamed of it.

When FATE was looking forwards one afternoon, into the great transactions of future times,—and recollected for what purposes, this little plot, by a decree fast bound down in iron, had been destined,—she gave a nod to NATURE—'twas enough——Nature threw half a spade full of her kindliest compost upon it, with just so *much* clay in it, as to retain the forms of angles and indentings,—and so *little* of it too, as not to cling to the spade, and render works of so much glory, nasty in foul weather.

My uncle *Toby* came down, as the reader has been informed, with plans along with him, of almost every fortified town in *Italy* and *Flanders*; so let the Duke of *Mariborough*, or the allies, have set down
before

before what town they pleased, my uncle *Toby* was prepared for them.

His way, which was the simplest one in the world, was this ; as soon as ever a town was invested, — (but sooner when the design was known) to take the plan of it, (let it be what town it would) and enlarge it upon a scale to the exact size of his bowling-green ; upon the surface of which, by means of a large roll of packthread, and a number of small piquets driven into the ground, at the several angles and redans, he transferred the lines from his paper ; then taking the profile of the place, with its works, to determine the depths and slopes of the ditches, — the talus of the glacis, and the precise height of the several banquets, parapets, &c. — he set the corporal to work — and sweetly went it on : — The nature of the soil, — the nature of the work itself, — and above all, the good-

good-nature of my uncle *Toby* sitting by from morning to night, and chatting kindly with the corporal upon past-done deeds, — left *LAEOUR* little else but the ceremony of the name.

When the place was finished in this manner, and put into a proper posture of defence, — it was invested, — and my uncle *Toby* and the corporal began to run their first parallel. — I beg I may not be interrupted in my story, by being told, *That the first parallel should be at least three hundred paces distant from the main body of the place, — and that I have not left a single inch for it ; —* — for my uncle *Toby* took the liberty of incroaching upon his kitchen garden, for the sake of enlarging his works on the bowling-green, and for that reason generally ran his first and second parallels betwixt two rows of his cabbages and his colliflowers ; the conveniences and inconveniences

veniences of which will be considered at large in the history of my uncle *Toby's* and the corporal's campaigns, of which this I'm now writing is but a sketch, and will be finished, if I conjecture right, in three pages (but there is no guessing)——The campaigns themselves will take up as many books; and therefore I apprehend it would be hanging too great a weight of one kind of matter in so flimsy a performance as this, to rhapsodize them, as I once intended, into the body of the work——surely they had better be printed apart,——we'll consider the affair——so take the following sketch of them in the mean time.

C H A P. LXV.

W H E N the town, with its works, was finished, my uncle *Toby* and the corporal began to run their first parallel——not at random, or any how—but from the same points and distances the allies had begun
gun

gun to run theirs ; and regulating their approaches and attacks, by the accounts my uncle *Toby* received from the daily papers,——they went on, during the whole siege, step by step with the allies.

When the duke of *Marlborough* made a lodgment,——my uncle *Toby* made a lodgment too.——And when the face of a bastion was battered down, or a defence ruined,——the corporal took his mattock and did as much,——and so on ;——gaining ground, and making themselves masters of the works one after another, till the town fell into their hands.

To one who took pleasure in the happy state of others,——there could not have been a greater sight in the world, than, on a post-morning, in which a practicable breach had been made by the duke of *Marlborough*, in the main body of the place,——
to

to have stood behind the horn-beam hedge, and observed the spirit with which my uncle *Toby*, with *Trim* behind him, sallied forth ;——the one with the *Gazette* in his hand,——the other with a spade on his shoulder to execute the contents.—What an honest triumph in my uncle *Toby*'s looks as he marched up to the ramparts ! What intense pleasure swimming in his eye as he stood over the corporal, reading the paragraph ten times over to him, as he was at work, lest, peradventure, he should make the breach an inch too wide,—or leave it an inch too narrow——But when the *chamade* was beat, and the corporal helped my uncle up it, and followed with the colours in his hand, to fix them upon the ramparts—Heaven ! Earth ! Sea !—but what avails apostrophes ?——with all your elements, wet or dry, ye never compounded so intoxicating a draught.

In

In this track of happiness for many years, without one interruption to it, except now and then when the wind continued to blow due west for a week or ten days together, which detained the *Flanders* mail, and kept them so long in torture,—but still 'twas the torture of the happy—In this track, I say, did my uncle *Toby* and *Trim* move for many years, every year of which, and sometimes every month, from the invention of either the one or the other of them, adding some new conceit or quirk of improvement to their operations, which always opened fresh springs of delight in carrying them on.

The first year's campaign was carried on from beginning to end, in the plain and simple method I've related.

In the second year, in which my uncle *Toby* took *Liege* and *Ruremond*, he thought
he

he might afford the expence of four handsome draw-bridges, two of which I have given an exact description of, in the former part of my work.

At the latter end of the same year he added a couple of gates with port-cullises : — These last were converted afterwards in orgues, as the better thing ; and during the winter of the same year, my uncle *Toby*, instead of a new suit of clothes, which he always had at *Christmas*, treated himself with a handsome sentry-box, to stand at the corner of the bowling-green, betwixt which point and the foot of the glacis, there was left a little kind of an esplanade for him and the corporal to confer and hold councils of war upon.

— The sentry-box was in case of rain.

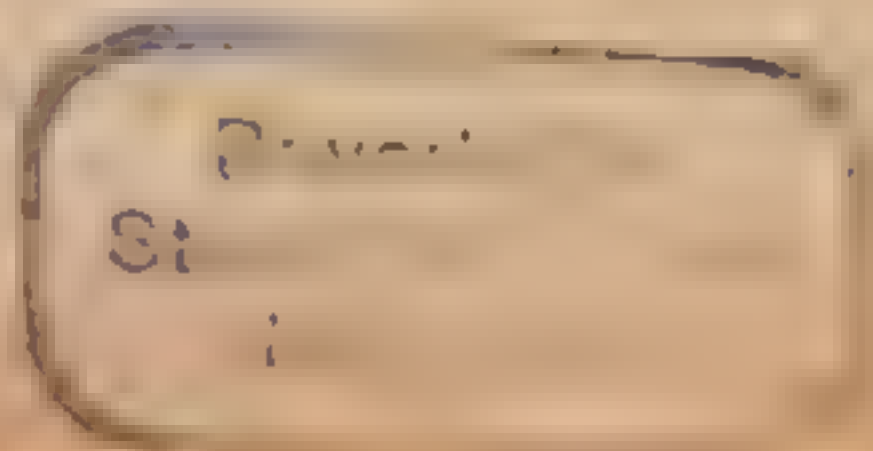
All these were painted white three times over the ensuing spring, which enabled my

uncle *Toby* to take the field with great splendour.

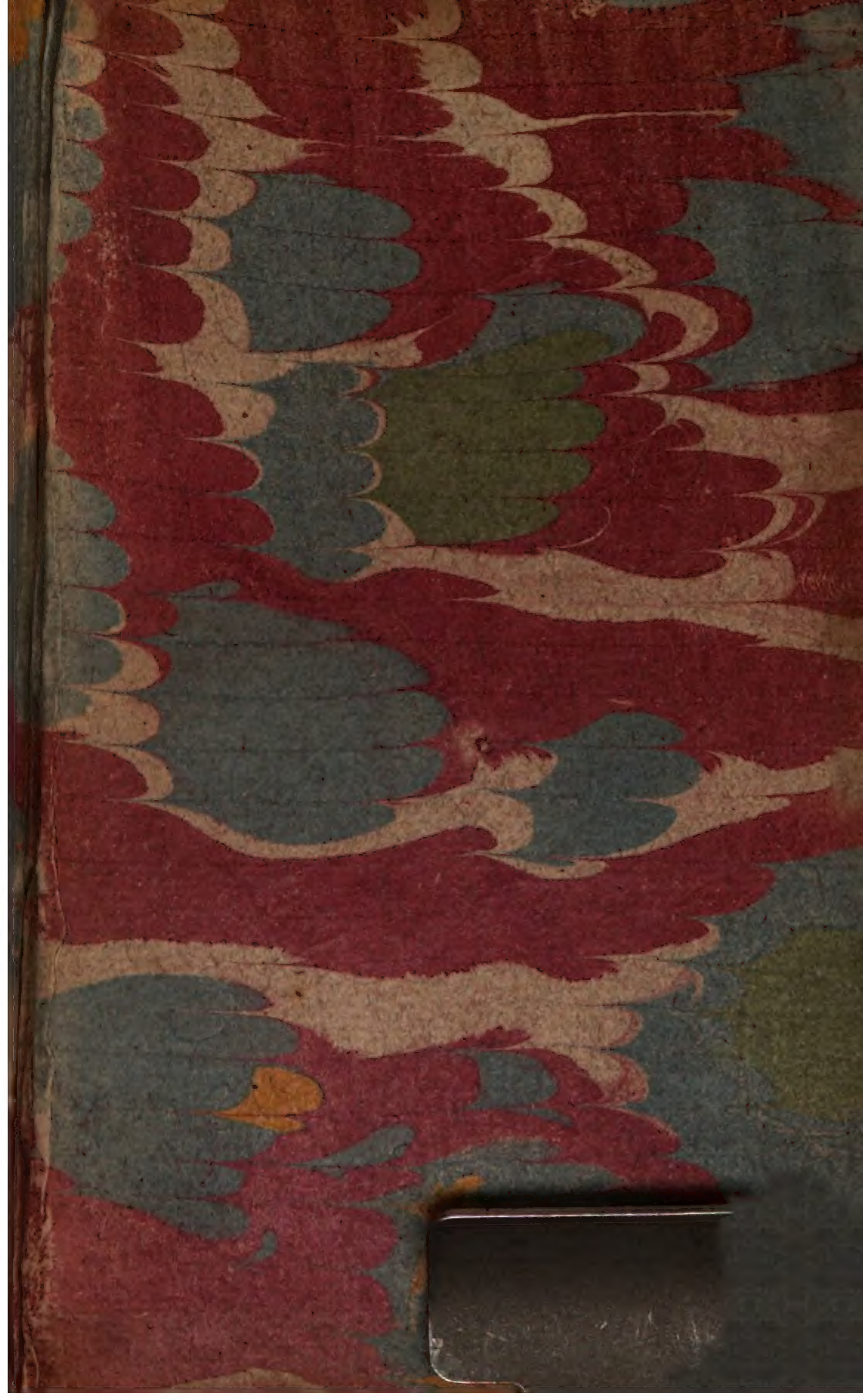
My father would often say to *Yorick*, that if any mortal in the whole universe had done such a thing, except his brother *Toby*, it would have been looked upon by the world as one of the most refined satires upon the parade and prancing manner, in which *Lewis XIV.* from the beginning of the war, but particularly that very year, had taken the field——But 'tis not my brother *Toby's* nature, kind soul! my father would add, to insult any one.

——But let us go on.

END of the FOURTH VOLUME.







Sterne, Laurence,

The Life And Opinions Of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman

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